The Weekly Tribune.

New-York Weekly Tribune.

Vol. XXIII... No. 1,170. NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1864. TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

NEWS SUMMARY.

WAR NEWS.

From Gen. Butler's Army.

From our correspondent with Gen. Butler's command we have just received the following highly important dispatch, dated Fortress Monroe, Feb. 8: The expedition having returned, we are permitted to state the following facts: On Saturday morning Gen. Butler's forces, under command of Brig.-Gen. Wistar, marched from Yorktown by the way of New-Kent Court-House. The cavalry arrived at 2½ o'clock yesterday morning at Bottom's Bridge, across the Chickahominy, ten miles from Richmond, for the purpose of making a raid into Richmond, and endeavoring by a surprise to liberate our prisoners there. The cavalry reached the bridge at the time appointed, marching in 16½ hours, 47 miles. A force of infantry followed in their rear, for the purpose of supporting them. It was expected to surprise the enemy at Bottom's Bridge, who had had for some time only a small picket there. The surprise failed because, as *The Richmond Examiner* of to-day says, "a Yankee deserter gave information in Richmond of the intended movement." The enemy had felled a large amount of timber so as to block up and obstruct the fords and make it impossible for our cavalry to pass. After remaining at the bridge from 2 o'clock until 12, Gen. Wistar joined them with his infantry, and the whole object of the surprise having been defeated, Gen. Wistar returned to Williamsburg. On his march back to New-Kent Court-House, his rear was attacked by the enemy, but they were repulsed without loss to us. A march by one infantry, three regiments of whom were colored, of more than 80 miles, was made in 56 hours. The cavalry marched over 100 miles in 50 hours. This shows that it is possible to make a campaign in Virginia in Winter. Richmond was in a terrible panic on the Saturday and Sunday of the expedition. Nearly all the troops had been sent to Lee, who was supposed to be threatened by Meade. The citizens were armed and mustered in great haste to guard the prisoners and man the works.

We have particulars of the attack of the Rebels upon Newbern, N. C., on the 2d instant, which show that it was quite as serious as was represented by the first dispatches, although the ultimate result was satisfactory to the Union arms, and saved Newbern from being occupied by the enemy. It appears that the Rebels advanced on the 1st instant upon our outposts at Bachelor's Creek, eight miles from Newbern, and captured them after a severe fight. A force of our cavalry was also repulsed in sight of Fort Totten. The enemy pressed closely upon our lines, and actually came within hailing distance of the city. Recent dispatches received by Gen. Butler, however, informed us that the enemy was driven back to Kinston by Gen. Palmer, on the 2d inst., and that Newbern was relieved. On that evening the Rebels had possession of Newport, and cut off the connection between Newbern and Beaufort. At 3 a. m. on the morning of Feb. 2, a Rebel force in boats boarded the United States gunboat Underwriter, which was hard aground abreast of part of our works, surprised her, and after a sharp struggle captured her with about one-third of her crew. Third Assistant Engineer Allen with a large number of the crew, rose on the Rebel crew of the barge that was carrying them off, and took them, and brought barge, crew, commander and all, safe into port. All the other officers were carried off. The Rebels had to fire and blow up the gunboat, being unable to get her off. Their attack gave them no other advantage, Newbern being much too strongly defended for the force and means they had, which are estimated at 15,000 men and 11 guns. They are thought to have come chiefly for supplies.

Our authorities have received unofficial information that Commissioner Ould is and has been in favor of the exchange of prisoners, and that he deprecates the action of the Rebel Cabinet and Senate in their course toward Gen. Butler. It is known that Commissioner Ould returned to Richmond from City Point fully convinced that our Government intends to sustain Gen. Butler and that any communication with this Government must come through him. Individual exchanges have been offered by the Rebels and accepted, and will continue to be, under Gen. Butler's policy to exchange man for man whenever offered. Gen. Butler confidently believes that the exchange will yet be consummated.

Gen. Butler has ordered as follows, with characteristic justice:

HEADQUARTERS NEGRO AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, GEN. SUP'S OFFICE, FORT MONROE, Va., Feb. 3, 1863.

In all cases where, upon abandoned plantations, contracts have been made and occupation commenced, or labor has been expended, by negroes, until a supposed owner or claimant [illegible], claiming the amnesty of the President's Proclamation, the right of the Government, given to the negroes, cannot be interfered with until all expenditures are made good and all labor expended paid for; and if crops are in, they must either be [illegible] by the claimant at valuation, or those planting them must be allowed to cultivate and gather them; because, in such cases stated, the rights of third parties have intervened within the meaning of the President's Proclamation. By order of the Commanding General.

J. BURNHAM KINSMAN, Lieut.-Col. and A. D. C., Gen. Supt. of Negro Affairs.

A gentleman just from Norfolk gives a very encouraging account of the colored troops in that vicinity, both infantry and cavalry. They are improving rapidly in drill and discipline, and in point of efficiency will soon equal the white troops. About 20,000 contrabands are gathered around there who are engaged in farming, raising cotton, &c. The great trouble experienced is too many sentimentalists and too few practical men are sent out to aid in educating and taking care of the negro.

Richmond papers confirm the report of the Rebel retreat from Newbern. Their army had fallen back 16 miles.

From Gen. Grant's Army.

Corinth has been evacuated, and the Memphis and Charleston Railroad abandoned from Lagrange to Memphis. The troops from the country thus given up have gone to Memphis, where a powerful expedition has been organized and gone down the river, under Major Gen. Hurlbut. A strong cavalry force is also preparing for an expedition into Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, under Gen. Grant's Chief of Cavalry, Brig.-Gen. W. Long Smith. A strong force of negro troops, with some white men, remains at Memphis. Gen. Hurlbut's force consists of four divisions of three brigades each, and thirteen batteries; and with full regiments would number 50,000 men. His division generals are Brig. Generals Tuttle, Dodge, A. J. Smith, and Veatch. Nearly all the troops are Western and North-western men. Recent accounts indicate that the operations of this army already take the shape of a movement eastward through the Gulf States upon Johnston's flank; and that Johnston's recent retreat from Dalton was in part at least in consequence of it. Hurlbut's command is moreover only one of several, the whole of the army being under Maj.-Gen. Sherman, so long an efficient lieutenant of Gen. Grant.

Gen. Foster telegraphs from Knoxville, under date of Feb. 7, that an expedition sent against Thomas and his band of Indians and whites at Quallatown, has returned completely successful. They surprised the town, killed and wounded 215, took 50 prisoners, and dispersed the remainder of the gang. Our loss was 2 killed and 6 wounded.

By last accounts from Chattanooga we learn that Gen. Johnston, with nearly his whole force, had fallen back as far as Rome, Ga., leaving only a portion of his troops at Dalton. No anxiety for the safety of our troops at Knoxville is entertained at Chattanooga. The line of couriers between the two points is uninterrupted.

Reports of a wide-spread mutiny in the Rebel army are afloat at Chattanooga. The railroad depot at Chattanooga, containing quartermasters' stores, was burned on Saturday. Loss, $100,000.

The Rebels made a series of attempts to capture Cumberland Gap on Friday and Saturday, 29th and 30th ult. with three cavalry brigades, but they were repulsed by Col. Love with a strong force.

On the 4th Gen. Park was in command of the 9th Army Corps at Knoxville, all safe. The recent skirmishes and movements in that region are said to have been mere foraging fights, not affecting the general situation.

Gen. Schofield has assumed command of the Department of the Ohio, vice Foster, relieved. Gen. Boyle's resignation has been accepted, and he has resumed the practice of law in this city. Gen. Hobson has been temporarily put in command of the forces in Kentucky, Gen. Ammen having been placed on the court-martial at Cincinnati.

From Gen. Kelley's Army.

A special dispatch to *The Baltimore American*, dated Cumberland, Md., Feb. 3, 12 m., says: The guard of one company of infantry posted at Patterson's Creek Bridge, eight miles east of Cumberland, was attacked at 1:30 p. m. yesterday by 500 Rebel cavalry, under Col. Rosser, and after a spirited resistance, in which two of our men were killed and ten wounded, the greater part of the company were captured. This accomplished, the Rebels set fire to the bridge, and leaving it to its destruction, started off with their prisoners. The employees of the railroad succeeded in staying the fire, and saved the bridge with only slight partial damage. General Averill with his command, who had been sent out from Martinsburg by Gen. Kelly, this morning, overtook the Rebels near Springfield and a severe engagement ensued. The Rebels were driven through Springfield and thence to and south of Burlington. Many of the Rebels were killed and wounded and our captures are large, including the recovery of our own men taken yesterday at Patterson's Creek, and many horses. The enemy are making rapid tracks for the back country, hotly pursued by our cavalry. The intended raid on New-Creek has been thwarted by Gen. Averill's quick movements and the other ample arrangements made by Gen. Kelly, and their unimportant success is turned into a complete rout and discomfiture. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is now entirely clear of the enemy, and the full operation of the line will be at once resumed.

Gen. Kelley, on the 5th, telegraphed that a day or two before, after six hours' hard fighting, Col. Mulligan drove Gen. Early, commanding the Rebel force on the recent raid in West Virginia, out of Moorefield, and then sharply engaged Gen. Rosser with the Rebel cavalry on the South Fork. Gen. Early has been compelled to retreat up the South fork of the South branch, toward the Shenandoah Valley, in consequence of the vigorous manner in which he has been attacked and pursued by Gen. Kelley's forces. Our combinations have proved successful in defeating the enemy's designs. We have taken quite a number of prisoners, and recaptured many of those taken from us. Our forces drove the enemy out of Petersburg. The enemy has lost a large number of men by desertion. Deserters continue to come in and give themselves up.

A dispatch received in Cincinnati from Kanawha gives particulars of the capture of Gen. Scammon and staff, and the burning of the steamer Levi. It appears that the steamer was lying at Winfield on the west side of Kanawha River, when thirty-five guerrillas appeared on the opposite side, thirteen of whom crossed in a skiff and took possession of the boat, capturing Gen. Scammon and forty soldiers and officers, all of whom were asleep. The guerrillas afterward burned the boat. All on board were paroled except Gen. Scammon and three other officers. The prisoners were mounted and sent off into the interior. Our forces had started in pursuit of them at last accounts.

Information reached one of our outposts on the 6th, by a mounted deserter from Gen. Early's command, that when he left a rumor was prevalent of the removal, or preparation being made for the immediate removal, of all the Yankee prisoners from the neighborhood of Richmond; also, that the Richmond authorities had detained the mails, newspapers, &c., going from Richmond to the soldiers in camp. Capt. Dougherty of the 15th Virginia Union Infantry, while on a scout in Hampshire County, on the 6th, encountered the noted guerrilla, Mike Cain, at the head of his gang, killing and capturing his lieutenant and four men with horses, equipments, &c. The encounter took place between Romney and Moorefield. The guerrillas were beaten and compelled to take to the woods and mountains in all directions for immediate safety. Cain has been an outlaw in every sense of the word.

Col. Thoburne, with the 1st and 14th West Virginia Infantry and Rourke's Battery, arrived safely at New Creek about 11 o'clock on Monday morning. Col. Thoburne had erected a bomb-proof fort at Petersburg, which in his hurry was left standing, and the troops abandoned their knapsacks and everything they had at that place. They came down by the Lunar Creek road, through Greenland Gap, and down New-Creek Valley to the station. This retreat was in consequence of the advance of a strong Rebel force.

Twenty-five refugees came in in one squad to Gen. Sullivan to-day. They are from Page and Shenandoah Counties.

These refugees tell sad tales of the workings of the Rebel conscription law. They say a Georgia regiment is enforcing the conscription in that section of country where they resided, and that these Georgians shoot down every man who is caught in an attempt to escape.

Deserters in large numbers continue to arrive at all our military posts along the line. From twenty-five to thirty deserters arrive at New-Creek every day.

One party of refugees who passed through Beverly report a band of refugees three hundred strong making their way to our lines.

From Gen. Meade's Army.

The Washington Republican, in a leader headed "Suggestions Concerning the Further Prosecution of the War," advocates a vigorous effort to overthrow the Rebel Army in Virginia as of prime importance, and advocates a campaign up the James River, believing that the occupation of the south bank of the James River would place at our mercy the Petersburg Railroad, and open the railroad from Richmond to Danville, and cause the evacuation of Richmond.

A letter from the army received Feb. 4, says: "Last Monday was the time appointed for the Rebel conscripts of Virginia to assemble at the various rendezvous. Refugees say a large portion declined doing so, and many will probably reach our lines."

The survivors of the 1st Maryland Cavalry, whose term of enlistment expired a few days ago, have with few exceptions re-enlisted for the war during the Rebellion.

On Saturday, Feb. 6, a reconnoissance in force from the Army of the Potomac started toward the Rapidan. Considerable firing took place at Morton's Ford during the day, and at 5 p.m. musket firing began and continued until dark.

Everything is quiet in the Army of the Potomac since the return of our forces to their old position. The Rebels have thrown up new rifle-pits and breast-works to cover Morton's Ford.

The latest news up to Feb. 9 concerning the "reconnoissance in force" from the Potomac Army represents that our troops pushed across at Germanna Ford, and they found the Rebel rifle-pits in that immediate vicinity occupied by but twenty-five pickets, who threw up their arms and surrendered, stating that there was no Rebel force within ten miles of their position. Immediately thereafter our forces pushed ahead in the direction of Orange Court-House, but had hardly progressed two miles before they were opened on from 12 guns. Attacking the Rebel force, we drove them from their position with considerable loss in killed, wounded, and missing. Our loss was 35 in the affair. The mass of our infantry then recrossed the Rapidan, leaving a force to hold the rifle pits.

Gen. Meade held a reception in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, yesterday. The freedom of the city was tendered to him by the Mayor.

From Gen. Gillmore's Army.

The following timely Order has been issued by Gen. Gillmore:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, HILTON HEAD, S. C., Jan. 20, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 10.—It is with regret that the Major-General Commanding has observed in the evidence adduced before Courts-Martial charged with the trial of colored soldiers indications, more or less conspicuous, of improper demeanor of officers toward the men under their command. The offense seems to include unofficerlike familiarity on the one hand, and extreme harshness on the other. Either course must result not only in insubordination, but in consequences of the most serious nature, whether the soldier be white or black. From their former dependent condition, and the consequent humility that generally characterizes their deportment, there is no doubt that the latter are easily controlled, and, except in comparatively rare instances, are not likely to violate that discipline to which they have through life been so rigidly subjected, if treated with even handed justice, and a strict and conscientious attention to their wants and comfort.

An officer who is unduly familiar either in speech or association, or who abuses by word or action the power and authority conferred upon him, not only strikes at the root of discipline himself, but encourages it in others.

The General commanding desires it to be distinctly understood that in every case hereafter that may be brought to his notice, of such conduct, a prompt and efficient remedy will be applied.

This order will be read to the troops of the different commands within this Department on the day after its receipt.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE.

From the South-West.

The New-Orleans Times of the 2d gives an account of an interview with Lieuts. Whitsolt and Greer of the 26th Indiana, who were captured by the Rebels last Fall, and have succeeded in making their escape from Tyler, Texas. All the prisoners were well. Several officers of negro regiments are in confinement at Tyler. They were kept forty-eight days in irons, *but are now treated exactly as the other prisoners.* There are over a hundred officers confined there, of whom the following is an incomplete list:

Maj. R. C. Anthony, 2 R. I. Ca.	Cap. A. D. Hopkins, 23 Ct.
Cap. F. W. Noblett, 1 Ind. Art.	Cap. S. J. Thompson, 176 N. Y.
Cap. Wm. P. Coe, 176 N. Y.	Cap. Albert Allen, 1 U. S. I.
Cap. S. G. Bally, 23 Ct.	Lt. John A. Woodruff, 23 Ct.
Cap. G. T. Troxell, 23 Ct.	Lt. John A. Peck, 23 Ct.
Cap. A. Wells, 23 Ct.	Lt. O. H. Holbard, 23 Ct.
Cap. Wm. H. May, 23 Ct.	Lt. John Babcock, 23 Ct.
Cap. Jas. R. Jenkins, 23 Ct.	Lt. David Hirshey, 1 U. S. I.
Lt. P. W. Lyon, 176 N. Y.	Lt. Geo. W. Higgs, 176 N. Y.
Lt. Chas. Kirby, 116 N. Y.	Lt. Danl. G. Gillett, 176 N. Y.
Lt. J. G. Stevens, 23 Conn.	Lt. J. F. Petry, 176 N. Y.
Lt. J. B. P. Robbins, 116 N. Y.	Lt. H. W. Moore, 4 Mass.
Lt. D. G. Wellington, 116 N. Y.	Lt. Frank Sheffey, 1 Ind. Art.
Lt. Chas. Bailey, 23 Conn.	Lt. Jas. M. Sampson, 4 Mass.
Lt. Chas. Owen, 25 Conn.	Lt. Freeman H. Chase, 12 Me.
Lt. J. W. Bockingham, 23 Ct.	Lt. L. Stevens, 176 N. Y.
Lt. Chas. E. Page, 4 U. S. Inf.	Lt. F. D. Vreelenburg, 10 Ill. C.
Lt. Jas. E. Delameter, 91 N. Y.	Lt. Wm. Bulkley, 12 Conn.
Lt. Caleb Brennan, 2 R. I. Cav.	Lt. Chas. Lonny, 12 Conn.
Lt. Chas. G. Hurlbut, 23 Conn.	Lt. Edwin Kirby, 12 Conn.
2d Assist. Eng'r R. W. Mars	Lieut. Collins, 26 Ind.
Master's Mate Henry Weston	Capt. Adams, 19th Iowa.
Act. 3d Ast. Eng'r H. Johnson.	Capt. Sproul, 19 Iowa.
Act. 3d Ast. E'r R. McLaughlin.	Capt. Roderick, 19 Iowa.
Lieut. Col. Leake, 20 Iowa.	Capt. Fisher, 19 Iowa.
Lieut.-Col. Rose, 26 Ind.	Lieut. Johnson, 19 Iowa.
Capt. N. A. Logan, 26 Ind.	Lieut. Wood, 19 Iowa.
Capt. R. N. Scott, 26 Ind.	Lieut. Powell, 19 Iowa.
Capt. W. J. Wallace, 26 Ind.	Lieut. Wright, 19 Iowa.
Lieut. McDowell, 26 Ind.	Lieut. Key, 19 Iowa.
Lieut. Robertson, 26 Ind.	

Lieut. Robb of the 19th Iowa, and Lieut. Walton of the 34th Iowa, wounded at Morganza, were left at Alexandria.

Maj.-Gen. Blunt has left Washington for Gen. Curtis's Department. He is to have command of the District of the Indian Territory, with his headquarters at Fort Smith, and he will be supplied with an ample army not only for defensive but offensive operations.

Gen. Price has superseded Gen. Holmes in the command of the Department of Arkansas. His headquarters are still at Longwood, west of Camden. Capt. Russell, the Rebel, Gen. Hunter's Adjutant, has been brought to Fort Smith. It has been recommended that Capt. Russell be held as a hostage for the delivery up of Quantrell for the murder of Major Curtis, at Baxter's Spring, last Fall.

New-Orleans dates to the 4th inst. were received yesterday. Gen. Banks has made an order on compensated plantation labor, fixing rules, prohibiting flogging and the sale of liquor, &c. There is no war news located near New-Orleans. From Texas we hear little but Rebel bombast.

The steamer Emma was fired into by guerrillas on the 5th, near Helena, and set on fire, but was saved.

Several persons have been arrested at Louisville for setting fire to the steamer Tyler. They are negro kidnappers.

A skirmish occurred recently in Jackson County, Mo., between Capt. Coleman's Union command and about 100 guerrillas, supposed to be a part of Quantrell's old force.

The noted guerrilla Lieut. John F. Rollin was captured a few days ago on Holcomb Island, seven of his men killed, and eight wounded. He is the man who perpetrated the Round Pond massacre, near Cape Girardeau, last Summer, when sixteen men were murdered in cold blood.

We learn from *The Santa Fé Gazette* that the Navajoes are being hard pressed by the troops under Col. Carson, and are suffering severely from want of food. Their necessities are so great they are reduced to the extremity of venturing to within a few miles of Fort Canby for the purpose of stealing cattle, &c., for provisions.

Major Kallen, with 14 mounted whites and 23 Apaches, started from Fort Sumner on Jan. 5 in pursuit of some Navajoes who had stolen some Apache stock. After going 13 miles, the pursuing party overtook about 100 Navajoes, of whom they killed or wounded 45, capturing the stolen animals.

The Gazette of the 10th says: It is understood that a large number of the mines in Southern Arizona will be reopened the coming Spring and put into operation. This result is brought about by protection that is being given to the mining regions by the military.

The St. Louis Democrat's Leavenworth special says Santa Fé advices to the 15th ult. are received. Gen. Carleton has gone to El Paso. A fight occurred near Fort Sumner on the 5th in which our troops routed the Navajo Indians, killing 40 and wounding 25.

A squad of Texan refugees from Gen. McCulloch's headquarters at Bonham, reached St. Louis on the 7th. They report a fearful state of affairs, and the whole country beyond the Rebel army, they say, is a battle-field, where engagements between deserters and guerrillas are frequent, in which the former are generally successful.

Refugees send numerous messages to the Union army, pledging enough armed recruits to hold the country. They only wait to see the head of a Union column to rise.

Southern News.

The Richmond papers of the 1st inst. have been seen at Washington. Their news is meager. Two steamers had lately run the Wilmington blockade. A Rebel regiment had gone into Corinth, Miss., without obstruction, and picked up such scraps as the Union forces had left there. Sumter had been the object of special attention from Gen. Gillmore, but nobody was hurt. The fact that the flag was shot away is noted, and over its replacement the Charlestonians are highly excited; not only did the daring soldiers flaunt the flag in the face (two miles off) of the hated foe, but "they waved their hats!" Long may they wave! Charleston gets a shell now and then. A dispatch from Morristown says that on the 28th the Union cavalry near Sevierville, East Tenn., were slightly whipped, and retreated. Richmond papers to the 3d report the blockade-running steamer Presto ashore on Sullivan's Island, and likely to be entirely lost under the Union firing. Part of the cargo will be saved.

Southern papers of several subsequent dates down to the 5th report that the firing on Charleston continues, 88 shots having been fired at it on the 6th, that a Union gunboat ashore in the Edisto was expected to be destroyed; that a Union force of some eight or ten regiments crossed the Big Black, moving westward, on the 5th, and that the whole Union army in that region is 30,000 strong; that Belle Boyd is about to go to Europe, expecting much attention there; that it is probable that all the Rebel newspapers, except a few doing Government work, will be obliged to suspend. There are now but 35 of them, all told. *The Sentinel* of January 29 asserts that the Rebels never felt so well before, that their prospects daily brighten, and that volunteering and finances in the North are about to break down together. *The Examiner* of Jan. 30 complains that able-bodied men who ought to be in the Rebel army shirk in offices which disabled soldiers could and should fill. The same paper contains the Rebel Senate Military bill, conscripting into their army all white men between 18 and 55, excepting only the disabled, a few indispensable civil officers and professional men and slave managers. Mr. Foote, on Jan. 29, submitted in the Rebel Congress memorials from their army insisting that the men must choose their own officers for the next campaign.

Rebel papers say that "several thousand Yankee prisoners are to be removed from Richmond to Georgia." They also say that the Rebel capital is soon to be removed to Columbia, S. C. Flour in Richmond is $250 per bbl., sugar $7 to $8 per lb.

Naval.

We have a letter from our correspondent at St. Louis, giving some interesting particulars about the Western iron-clads. The gunboat Milwaukee was launched at St. Louis, Mo., on the 4th inst. The Chickasaw will be launched at the same place on the 6th inst., and the Kickapoo a few days afterward. These vessels are all two turreted monitors, and sisters to the Winnebago, which was put on trial about two months ago. It is expected that all these vessels will be completed and sent to the Western fleet in less than two months. Two of them have the Eads's patent turrets, in which the guns are operated by steam.

The gunboat Ozark left St. Louis on the 5th inst. on a trial trip, Chief Engineer King, U. S. N., was on board in behalf of the Government. This vessel, unlike the others named, is of wood, and has one Ericsson turret. The completion of all these vessels has been so much delayed beyond the contract time that the objects which they were intended to remove, viz., the forts on the Mississippi, are no longer in the hands of the Rebels.

The Chesapeake case was resumed at St. John, N. B., on Saturday. Dr. Luke P. Blackburn, a Confederate resident, was acquainted with Jeff. Davis, knew his writing, and swore that Capt. Parker's commission bore Davis's own signature. The brother of the Captain of the pirate Retribution was examined, also three other Southern men, to prove that the Chesapeake pirates are regularly commissioned naval officers of a regularly established and recognized Government, and should be recognized as such. The case was afterward decided in the Admiralty Court at Halifax, N. S. The Judge declared that the vessel and cargo should be restored to her owners, subject to such conditions respecting the payment of the expenses as the Attorney-General may exact. The latter demands surety against latent claims, which the owners and agents of the vessel demur to.

A letter from Doboy Sound, Georgia, dated Jan. 3, announces the capture by the gunboat Huron of the British ship Sylvanus. After being repeatedly shelled and well riddled, the Sylvanus was run ashore and sunk in one fathom of water, and low tide leaves her nearly dry, and she may be repaired. She is about 400 tuns burden, and is loaded with salt, spirits of all kinds, cordage, &c. She was trying to run in, and suddenly changed her mind upon seeing the Huron, and tried to run out. Her papers made her out to be from Nassau, N. P., and bound ostensibly to Bermuda. Her captain acknowledged that she was a blockade runner.

Acting Rear Admiral Lee writes to the Navy Department, Jan. 28, that Acting Master Brown of the bark Restless, has completed the destruction of a nest of nearly 300 sets of salt works near St. Andrew's Bay, Florida. The boats of the Stars and Stripes captured a blockade-running schooner, cotton loaded, in St. Mark's Bay, Florida, Dec. 22, with 14 prisoners, and burnt her. Jan. 18, the Stars and Stripes captured in the same bay the blockade-running steamer Laura, with merchandise and cigars. Jan. 14, the U. S. supply steamer Union captured the blockade-running steamer Mayflower, with cotton.

The Navy Department proposes to build a fleet of double-enders exclusively of iron, but otherwise like the wooden double-enders. One of these last, the Wateree, has had a trial of her engine, which indicated a speed of 12 or 14 knots. Capt. Nicholson is to command the monitor Manhattan, now preparing for sea at Jersey City.

A new and fast blockade-runner, the Wild Darrell, was destroyed at New-Topsail Inlet, N. C., not long since, by the Sassacus and the Florida. The victim had got ashore, and was landing her cargo.

Miscellaneous.

The Nashville Union of Feb. 4 announces the return to loyalty of three Rebels prominent enough to possess influence over many others. They are D. C. Humphreys of Alabama, Major T. H. Williams of Tennessee, and Capt. J. M. Streetman of the 54th Georgia Regiment. Mr. Humphreys was a candidate on the Douglas electoral ticket in 1860, has been a violent Rebel, and now urges the people of Alabama to return to the Union, giving up Slavery. Major Williams said at a meeting in Nashville on the 2d, that 200 of his regiment were already in the United States service, and more coming. He declared his readiness to lose his slaves. Some Secession sympathizers, he added, called the Proclamation of Emancipation unconstitutional. He asked them "if they wanted the Constitution administered. If they did they were fools, for it would hang them and all their friends now in the Rebel ranks, if caught, for the penalty of treason is death." Capt. Streetman calls on his comrades to renounce the Rebel service, predicts the failure of the Rebellion, and attributes its continuance to the obstinacy and pride of the Rebel leaders. From Arkansas the accounts of growing Union sentiments are frequent. Four Union regiments are now in the field, and others forming. In the Western part of the State, which is mountainous, there is the same spirit of freedom which has pervaded East Tennessee, and the Union soldiers are everywhere enthusiastically welcomed.

A detachment of 150 men of the 7th Maine Regiment arrived in Boston on the night of the 4th, from Portland, en route for Washington. Another detachment of recruits will leave Long Island camp early next week for the Department of the South. Jones's Eleventh battery took the regular boat by Stonington route on the 5th inst.

The President has approved and promulgated some orders of Secretary Chase for promoting trade in sundry Southern States. These remove all restrictions on trade in Missouri and Kentucky, with the usual proviso against sending goods, &c., into Rebel territory, allow sales or other disposition of goods without permit at any place where there is a Treasury Supervising or Assistant Special Agent; and relaxes, to some extent, the previous rules about payments of dues and fees. Residents without our lines, however, may receive only a fourth of the proceeds, the rest going into the United States Treasury, a certificate or receipt being given to the owner.

A private letter from Charlotte Harbor, Fla., Jan. 20, states that a number of troops under Gen. Woodbury had arrived at Punta Rosa, their object being to cut off the large supply of beeves the Rebels are taking from Florida, at the rate of 1,500 per week. The expedition was guided by Lieut. Crane, who was a Commissary in the United States Army during the war in Florida, and who resided there until the Rebellion broke out, when he was obliged to leave on account of his Union sentiments. Lieut. Crane says he intends to take possession of Fort Myers, on the Caloosahatchie River, and make it a rallying point for Union men, as well as a good base of operations.

A letter from Gen. Dix to the Legislative Committee on Federal Relations, in reply to a note of inquiry, states explicitly that no colored soldier has frozen to death at Riker's Island, though two died from the effects of drugs used in decoying them to enlist. These troops and their officers are both in tents, but they are to be placed in barracks at Willett's Point as soon as possible. They have, the General also says, been abundantly fed, and are as comfortable as troops can be in tents.

Marshal Murray arrested two recruit brokers on Friday, named H. Downer and John Crockett. Downer was charged with swindling William Brown, of the 14th Heavy Artillery, out of $150. The Marshal sent the prisoner to Gen. Dix, in whose absence he was then ordered to be locked up by the police; but he preferred to pay $150 into the hands of the Marshal, subject to the order of Gen. Dix. Brown, the recruit, has a wife and seven children. Crockett was sent to Fort Lafayette.

A project has originated at West Point to erect there a "Battle Monument," upon which shall be inscribed the names of all officers of the Regular Army who shall have been killed or died of wounds received in the field during the present war. The expense of the monument is to be defrayed by a sliding scale of taxation upon the officers of the Regular Army—$27 for a Major-General, down to $7 for a Lieutenant. Col. Bowman is President, and Prof. Church Treasurer of the Association.

The 2d Regiment New-York Fire Zouaves were enthusiastically received by a great turnout of the firemen, and a great multitude of citizens, and with a good dinner given by the Fire Department.

A locomotive and five cars ran through the draw of the Long Bridge at Washington on Saturday. One soldier was killed and ten or twelve wounded.

A number of distinguished citizens gave a complimentary dinner to Maj.-Gen. Burnside at the Revere House, Boston, on Feb. 6.

Marshal Kane and a number of Confederate officers left Halifax in the steamer Alpha, Feb. 6, for the land of "Dixie."

Illinois boasts that she has furnished, up to Jan. 1, all the men required of her under all calls up to that period.

Marshal Kane and several other Rebel officers, escaped from Johnson's Island, have arrived at Halifax, N. S.

GENERAL NEWS.

New-York.

Luther C. Tibbetts, a member of the Corn Exchange of this city, was arrested for creating a disturbance and stabbing Officer Bessimer of the First Precinct, who attempted to eject him from the Produce Exchange building. For some days past he has occasioned considerable trouble in the Corn Exchange by accusing members of swindling him. The assailant was committed to the Tombs. Dr. Simmons reports him temporarily insane. The officer is recovering.

At the Binghamton election on the 2d for town officers, *every candidate on the Union ticket was chosen by handsome majorities*—a result unprecedented in the political history of this place. This town has already enlisted the number requisite to fill the call of October with numerous applicants to spare, so that there is no doubt but what the new call will be promptly answered.

Fifteen freight cars, belonging to the New-York Central Railroad Company, were run into by a freight train on the Union track, a short distance north-east of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Bridge, early Tuesday, and all the cars were badly damaged, no person was injured.

A resolution has passed the New-York Assembly that tolls ought to be imposed on the New-York Central and Erie Railroads during the suspension of canal navigation.

The town of Barton, Tioga Co., N. Y., has filled its quota of 96 men under the last call of the President, and has three men over. Is not this the Banner Town?

On Thursday afternoon A. & C. Kaufman's confectionery factory, No. 444 Pearl street, in this city, was nearly destroyed by fire.

William Smith, the bar-keeper, shot by a negro on Tuesday morning, died at the Hospital on Thursday.

The survey of the Schenectady and Catskill Railroad commenced at Schenectady on Tuesday morning.

Miscellaneous.

The original building of Colt's Pistol Factory at Hartford took fire on Friday morning, and was destroyed, with all the machinery, and a large amount of other property. The building was 500 by 60 feet, with an L 100 by 60. The office, a large three-story building, was also destroyed. The new building in which the Minié rifles are made was saved. Seventeen hundred workmen are employed in all the shops, half of whom are thrown out of employment. The loss is at least half a million dollars. It is insured for $750,000 in the New-York and New-England offices. Several lives were lost by the falling of the roof of one of the buildings. Another account says the loss will foot up to one million of dollars. It is surmised that a Rebel emissary set the fire, as it broke out during the only half hour when no watchman was present, and a person claiming to be a Rebel deserter a little while before got employment there. The fire raised the price of revolvers. The factory is to be rebuilt.

Col. N. G. Taylor of Tennessee delivered an eloquent Union address in the hall of the House of Representatives, in Boston, on the 5th inst., to an immense audience. He was followed by Gov. Burnside in a brief address. Both speakers were greatly applauded. In some closing remarks, Col. Taylor said that Slavery was used up, that Jefferson Davis was responsible to Southern slaveowners for its death, and nobody in Massachusetts need claim any credit therefor. The speaker had all along labored to preserve it, but had been unsuccessful. At the present time, however, he and the people whom he represented were opposed to Slavery, and everything else that stood between them and their country.

Edward W. Green, Postmaster of Malden was arrested on Sunday night for the murder of young Converse and the robbery of Malden Bank on the 15th of December. Green, confessed his guilt, described his shooting of Converse, the Assistant Cashier, dead, and his subsequent robbery of the bank. He further confessed where he hid the money, most of which has been recovered. Suspicion was first fixed on Green because he showed no interest in the affair, he was watched, and found to have paid out some of the missing money.

Bishop Wood, of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Philadelphia, has created a sensation by denouncing all organizations of a political, social or religious nature whose members are in any way bound together by secret oaths or rules. His attention was called to the subject by the spread, in power and influence, of a society known as the Fenian Brotherhood. For its advocacy of the Fenians the Bishop withdrew his sanction from *The Catholic Herald*, and has issued a "pastoral" to be read in the various Catholic churches throughout the diocese, addressed to the Irish Catholics, who are warned against all association with secret societies of any and every kind.

New-Orleans dates to the 2d inst. are received. The Free-State Convention nominated the Hon. Michael Hahn for Governor. Some of the Delegates bolted, and have named the Hon. B. F. Flanders for Governor. The election takes place on the 22d inst., and the legal restoration of the State to the Union is looked upon as a matter of course. The resolutions of the Convention are patriotic, and thoroughly outspoken against Slavery. There is no war news of importance.

It is claimed that a new mineral district known as the Granite Range, on Lake Superior, between the coast and the [illegible] or Iron range, is richer in silver-bearing lead ore than either the copper or the iron districts in their kind of wealth. This region is about 20 miles long by from 10 to 20 wide, mountainous, desolate, and not explored until this rich lead ore was discovered, last August. This ore is said to produce from 10 to 20 pounds of silver to the ton of lead.

A recent decision of the Office of Internal Revenue at Washington determines that the act of March 3, 1863, to provide ways and means to support the Government, imposes a half yearly tax of one eighth per cent on that part of the deposits in all banking concerns whatever of circulation or deposit, except such as are savings banks exclusively, which exceeds the average amount of their circulation.

The Committee of Conference in the Maryland Legislature upon the Convention bill has voted to restore certain obnoxious portions of the Senate bill stricken out by the House. This is likely to cause trouble and delay. The object of the Copperheads is to defeat the whole measure, or pass such acts as will render it abortive and thwart emancipation.

The Department of Agriculture is preparing a cabinet of different wools, to show the effects of climate, soil, &c., in different States, and desires from all parts of the country specimens of wool, with descriptions of sheep and localities where grown. The first contribution is from Iowa, from the flock of the Hon. J. B. Grinnell, M. C. from Iowa.

The Constitution and Union newspaper office in Fairfield, Iowa, edited by Dave Sheward, was visited by Company F, of the 2d Iowa Volunteers Feb. 8, and the type and paper were thrown out of the window and the subscription books were destroyed.

A State Convention of Germans of New-Jersey was held at Newark yesterday. They pronounce for the abolition of slavery, confiscation of Rebel lands, and for Fremont or Butler, or some equally radical man for President.

The little son of Alexander Shriver, President of the Ericsson Line of Steamers, was killed at Baltimore on the 9th, by falling from the window of his father's house, on sharp iron railings below.

Two manatees, or sea-cows, were captured by a Mr. Latimer, and are now alive and well in his possession. He will present them to the Central Park Commission, provided they will send for them.

A proposition is before the New-Jersey Legislature to extend the charter of the New-Jersey Railroad to 1889, and authorize some changes in the location of the track.

The Rev. Mr. Staples, Unitarian, of Brooklyn, died on Friday morning. His health had long been very poor, and his decease, therefore, was not unexpected.

The Senate of Missouri on the 9th inst. passed the House bill for a new State Convention. The bill defers the election for Delegates until November next.

The Kansas Legislature has elected Governor Thomas Carney to the United States Senate, in place of Senator Lane, whose term will expire in March, 1865.

The Rev. Mr. Henkle, a Secession Methodist preacher, was sent South from that city on the same day.

South America.

News from Vera Cruz to the 31st and Mexico City to the 25th ult. gives a long list of towns and villages as having declared their adherence to the Intervention and the Empire. The members of the Government of San Luis de Potosi, appointed by Mejia after capturing that place on the 4th of January, "unanimously declared for the new order of things." It is reported from Celaya, Jan. 9, that Gen. Echegaray was taken prisoner at Salvatierra, and was taken to Celaya by a part of the garrison of that place. There have been several skirmishes between the French and Juarist troops—one at San Juan de los Llanos, which lasted from 9 a. m. till 1 p. m., in which Gen. Garzajuto and Col. Romero and a large number of soldiers were captured and many killed, &c., while the French loss was one killed and three wounded. On the 24th, the convoy from Jalapa arrived without molestation at Vera Cruz. They were escorted by the greater part of the Sleeoga brigade. The port of Campeachy surrendered to the French corvette Magellan, Capt. Cloué, on Jan. 21. Doblado was still at Zacatecas on the 9th. The French papers report that Juarez has abdicated, and that he has been succeeded by Ortega, but no date is given, and nothing seems to confirm it. We get accounts of a butchery of travelers from Jalapa, near Vera Cruz—"several soldiers, three men and boys, also four women and girls, were killed, and the baggage robbed.

The Ocean Queen, from Panama Jan. 29, arrived here on Saturday evening. The war between the United States of Colombia and Ecuador was over, peace having been restored by a treaty of Dec. 30. According to an additional arrangement, free trade is to be established between the two Republics. Spain is threatening Peru with hostilities on account of some Spanish colonists having been murdered by Peruvians. The Government of Chili has passed some police regulations for ecclesiastical edifices, to prevent the recurrence of disasters like that of Dec. 8. On Dec. 31 a similar calamity had nearly befallen Santiago in another church. The Republic of Salvador is quiet, and the Duenas party were victorious in the election of Jan. 3 for the Constitutional Assembly. In Honduras, three claimants of the Presidency are trying to get actual possession of it.

By the arrival of the Columbia we have dates from Havana to Feb. 2, and from Mexico to Jan. 21. The news from Mexico is not important. The report that Aguascalientes and Zacatecas had been occupied by French troops proved to be premature. It is said that at a council of Spanish generals held at Havana it was resolved to memorialize the Spanish Government to give up Santo Domingo.

We learn from Nicaragua, that President Martinez intends to resign, to the great regret of all true friends of the State. The cultivation of cotton is greatly increasing, and it is expected that at least 15,000 bales will be exported this year. The satisfactory settlement of the difficulty between the Government of Nicaragua and the Central American Transit Company may be regarded as certain.

It is rumored that President Martinez of Nicaragua intends to resign. Cotton is beginning to be raised in that Republic. It is expected that 15,000 bales will be exported this year.

The Legislature of Nova-Scotia was opened at Halifax on Thursday. Mr. Wadt was elected speaker of the House.

71.2009 [illegible]

The Weekly Tribune.
NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 1864.

THE POOR MAN'S BIRTHRIGHT!

We deeply regret the appearance of a crude Proposal to repeal the act abolishing the Public Lands of the United States and make Free—10 acres being allotted to each Actual Settler on the payment of $10 for the cost of survey and transfer. That act is worth more to this country than a year's cost of the Rebellion. It is to day drawing hither the most intelligent and energetic portion of the Laboring Class of the Western Europe, who are every day becoming more and more aware that the real issue of all this struggle is, whether they settle in Canada, Australia, or almost anywhere else, in every part of the United States, they will be welcomed as citizens—not as a persons in most advantageous position to help pay them. Europe seems on the brink of another of its convulsions, which are likely to send millions of her people abroad in quest of peace and prosperity, as it sent many of their fathers to be attracted to this country. Every one of these will be contributory to our revenues through the consumption of both duty-paying Imports and Excise-bearing Liquors, Tobacco, &c., &c. Every dollar thus can be strictly applied to the above will contribute in the average at least $10 to our revenues, so that if only one hundred thousand families shall be drawn hither by the profits of Free Land, they will add Three Millions per annum to our revenue at the end of the year one, and the amount will increase with the increase of their numbers.

Every new cabin on the prairies, each smoke rising up from a new clearing in the wilderness, attests an addition to the military strength and duty-paying ability of our country. Let us not, then, for the sake of a few thousand dollars deferring in upon us in steadily increasing volumes. We can no longer proffer the cheap homesites and exemption from Government taxation that in other days lured so many to our shores, but let us call within the area of our system the profits of Free Homes. We pray Congress to think more of the home-needing millions than of the long-expanding thousands, and we are emphatically that the Homestead Act shall stand.

TAXATION NECESSARY.

Resolutions have been submitted to the House of Representatives by Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania, this State, looking to the securing of such a revenue as will more expressly and directly tax—and prevent an undue increase of—debt. It requires $170,000,000 per annum to meet the interest on millions of luxury which are wholly of foreign origin, and $300,000,000 by increasing the internal revenue tax on luxuries, and on such articles of domestic manufacture as come in competition with Imported Goods. Experience alone has been correctly reported, this will give a total revenue of $300,000,000. That sum will be large enough for all present and prospective wants. But whatever may be necessary, let us have it—it ought to be raised.

Some notion of this description, thorough and prompt, must be had. We have been forced into an unwonted debt, but we are not to be bound to see it presided for. The resources of the country must be drawn upon to the extent of ample taxes, no matter how heavy the burden may prove. Hereafter the North will have the overpaid Debt to settle in currency for the Gold but we cannot wait for that. For the present we must take the whole load on our own shoulders. The ruinous error of delay must be avoided. On a former occasion it cost the nation many millions which a bold provision at the difficulty would have saved. In June, 1812, we declared war with England, and in August the bank notes and bank credits to rely on for maintaining it. The banks lent the Government about $6,000,000 in July, and $1,000,000 more were borrowed from individuals who had first borrowed from banks. In 1813 about $5,000,000 of 6 000 more were borrowed, giving $13 for $100. In 1814 some $6,000,000 were borrowed, and the amount giving $18 for $100. After that Mr. Ingham declared in Congress that "it seemed impossible to borrow on any terms."

The error of the time did not consist in attempting to carry on the war by loans, because no nation has yet possessed a treasury full enough to do without them. But it was in failing to raise promptly and regularly—considering the resources of the country to provide such a revenue as would inspire general confidence. To refuse to do so were taken still more than a year after the declaration of war, while the rate proved in 1812 did not take effect until January 1814. The peace expenses of the Government had been for the twelve years of 1802, 1803 and 1804, amounted to only $23,000,000. It mounted to Treasury Notes, in 1812, the last-named period about $47,000,000 were loaned, but as they were receivable for all public dues they accomplished no permanent good. The delay of taxation kept the Government unsatisfied and poor, it failed to inspire confidence, thus swelling the sum of whatever it had to beg, and as the general result of its financial cowardice, the public debt was nearly doubled over what a courageous resort to ample taxation at the outbreak of the war would have occasioned.

It cannot be denied that in our present emergency we have far exceeded the run of half a century ago. But there is a great financial task still requiring performance. It can be achieved by nothing short of universal taxation. The public mind is agreed that it must come, and the people will not oppose the necessary burden. They will rally to it as to peace, be at peace, to the life of public credit among nations, and nothing short of it can give peace to the public mind abroad.

THE ENROLLMENT ACT AND THE SUPREME COURT.

An insurrectionary journal in this city sees more progress that the Enrollment Act shall be tested before the Supreme Court of the United States by a conditional promise in its columns to pay a make up case between the President and Governor Seymour. The proposition betrays an ignorance of the character and functions of the Judiciary, and of the order of proceeding in cases of law concerning acts of Congress. It assumes that the Judiciary is part of the governing power; that the acts of Congress has no real validity until its constitutionality has been affirmed by the Supreme Court; and that the people have the right, if in no hurry, to resist the enforcement of a law which a decision of that Court has not sanctioned. If the latest statement of such a proposition is correct, it is the fault of those who have heretofore urged it—not ours.

We trust it will not be thought important if we suggest to the "Conservative" who prefer the proposition that they should really read the Constitution, and endeavor to understand the elementary principles which it embodies. Article I. Section 1, is this:

"All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

All legislative powers are vested in Congress; and the Constitution of a State gives no power to Representatives; and the Supreme Court does not constitute any part of it, nor is invested with any legislative function whatever. Not until the 7th section of the same article it is provided that every bill which shall become a law, shall be signed by the President, or, if vetoed, shall be repassed by two-thirds of each House; but it is not required that it shall be submitted to the Supreme Court. A bill once passed by Congress and signed by the President becomes a law, and the Constitution enjoins upon the President to take care that it be faithfully executed.

But a law does sometimes come before the Supreme Court? Yes. In the very first section of the third article of the Constitution vests the judicial—not legislative power of the United States in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. Its duties with proscribe the limits of this judicial power. It is declared to extend to certain "cases," and "controversies" enumerated, and it does not extend to any others. The Supreme Court has no control over the legislation or laws of the Union, except such as is quite incidental, and indirectly. Its proper business is to settle cases between parties. It has no cases which come before it in the regular administration of laws. These cases usually come depend upon the construction or upon the validity of certain statutes, and if in any particular case the constitutionality of a law is involved, it is necessary to pass upon the statute. It is often the duty of the Court to determine the constitutionality of acts of the States. And there is no other way in which a question can be raised and brought before the Court, or in which the Court can assume a political jurisdiction.

The English practice differs in this respect from the tribunals of other countries. In England, under an Act of Parliament, a case binding upon the Courts absolutely. They have no power to question its validity they must simply apply it to the facts of a case as they find and obey it. Parliament is supreme. But in this country the Legislature is restrained by law, and an Act of Congress has no legal force or validity if it contravenes any provision of the Constitution. The second and third articles of the property, the victory of the nationality principle in Germany would have a decisive influence on the German position as Great Powers. Austria, especially, in denationalizing more to the minor States than any other authority from the Executive right in favor of a principle, which, if carried out, would be fatal to its own existence. And it is natural that they should fear such a state of affairs more than a falling out with the Western Powers, which, after a momentary and fruitful friends, but that this is much less likely to happen than the first.

Their plan, as far as we can infer from the last advices, was to bring, in conjunction with Austria, the affair before the Federal Diet, and to cause to bear upon Denmark so to induce her to withdraw the obnoxious constitutional law. The conclusion peace, to recognize King Christian IX. as Duke of Schleswig and Holstein, and treat with him accordingly, and to show Prussia open contempt. The English Government does not appear to have taken any active part in this, although we learn by the Archive's advices that English artillery has been sent to Copenhagen, and that the Government has given its opinion to the Danish Constitution, to which Austria and Prussia object, and has advised Denmark to resist.

The important question now arises—will the Federal Diet, which is the Confederation of Germans in case Austria and Prussia openly refuse to obey its decrees? Will the whole German Parliament which controlled the decision of the Diet, this question would be decided in the affirmative. But it is not so. Powers. Several significant indications of this have already been given. The Chamber of Deputies has adopted a resolution opposing the policy of the Government separating itself from the other German States, and threatening every result more fearful.

Of the intentions of the minor Courts we are not yet put imperfectly informed. Nearly all of them—with the exception of those of Baden, Saxe-Gotha, and Nassau—have always been hitherto regarded as petty despotisms, and have not enjoyed the confidence of the people. Their sympathies are with Austria and Prussia chiefly that of the Kingdom of Saxe, have displayed a decided leaning to the Western Powers. It is said that Saxe is ready to vote at the Federal Diet for the most violent and radical measures, and even for the confiscation of the Duke of Augustenburg's property. Recent advices from the University of Leipsic met in solemn conclave and declared the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin guilty of high treason."

Great surprise is expressed in Europe at the attitude of the Prussian Government. It has aroused his cordial sympathies with the national aspirations of Germany, and especially of Schleswig-Holstein. He is not treated by the German people, but his opinions and promises have long commanded confidence and respect. He was not prepared to find his name the rallying point of the radical Diet. A correspondent of The London Telegraph writes from Berlin that the Professors of the University of Leipsic met in solemn conclave and declared the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin guilty of high treason."

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The Berlin correspondent proceeds to say how this mad knot can be untied; but it is sufficiently clear that Austria and Prussia, in according to more of their wishes, by the Diet, are in considerable danger of becoming entangled in a German complication quite to no end.

THE DESPAIR AND THE HOPE OF THE REBELS.

The Southern papers continue to exhibit evidences of discontent, of suffering, and of despondency. Better evidence than these is the letter of Lee, to the Rebel soldiers to endure patiently the hardships occasioned by the blockade, for the end is near. That letter dates as Jan. 22, at a time when his army is in Winter quarters, and within easy distance of supplies, and when the blockade has been in force for months. And then comes the cry of famine—comes even from Lee's army, which is "starving" and "suffering for want of food." Rebel force! Lee's soldiers get little meat even now. Can't we live on half rations, at that time when the Rebel Government declares that The Richmond Whig. And if we are entitled to believe the Rebel papers, we have no considerations for his men, where is he to look for a supply in future?

The Richmond Examiner furnishes an equally remarkable comment on the prevailing destitution of the Rebel States. It says that the Rebel officers on military operations on the part of the Government, and the quarrel, albeit a mortal one between parties for the control of the Government, is a family squabble. The scenes of plundering and pillage—

"Will the disgrace of the Union be at an end, when the Constitution is at an end, and the niggers do they vote? No good enough to raise a question whether they think 'reconstruction' should or should not, precede the re-admission of the people of "fugitives from labor" to their former masters?

EHRING BROTHERS AND WAY-WARD SISTERS.

We still hear in Congress, and read in newspapers of a certain fair, language of a sympathetic character, and sentiments of a patriotic character, but to be confined to a certain order of sentiments. Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to say anything about the subject of bringing the above-holding incorrectness to their senses in under discussion. I am not a correspondent of the Herald or Tribune, nor a newspaper, and no such doctor ever published the effusion of his brain-sick fancy. I hardly think such persons as Cox of Ohio proclaim that only by a fraternal, sympathetic, and kind-hearted policy can the Union be saved, will pardon all these adjectives—now to hope to be understood. The Rebellion is not to be crushed—it is to be enabled into a surrender of its pretensions. Gentlemen talk pathetically of the necessity of conciliation, and tenderly express that policy, although to all minds less sympathetic and more under own, it seems to be so simply natural that we wonder at the opposition which it excites, until we are driven to look for the key which is entered with such inappropriate promptness. How Cox & Co., Ohio, and Ehring Brothers & Co., of Richmond, ever solemnly considered the nature of the crime of treason—its savage cruelness, its ingratitude, its audacity, its atrocity, its utter want of universal freedom which can alone insure to us the blessings of a good government. Comprehend in the full entirety of family-feeling speaks always of traitors as if they were a little more than half to be ashamed of. Even in the field mounted upon their injuries—as if they were guilty of no more than a breach of human infirmity must be tolerated! With what complacency these gentlemen play the part of brothers to the erring! With what tender words have they for Mr. Lincoln, for the Cabinet, for the Congress, for the Generals, for the manhood of the Black, for every writer who ventures to suggest that the old notion of the good policy of honesty is not yet altogether extinct in the distorted plebe, and for every word spoken in the interest of human affairs, with a tolerable certainty of success! We are morally stating a simple truth when we say that without much effort we can show that for every word of mildly expressed censure for the Rebellion, there have been bestowed upon the great criminals who call Jeff Davis their leader, they have had a thousand times more than mildly bitter to deal with. Even we, under the pressure of infinite difficulties, have had to apply to ourselves the epithet to do their whole duty as public officers and as citizens. The fact simply stated is enough to show the utter contemptuousness with which these patriots, who are loyal with a qualification, regard the Rebellion. It is not the fact of the nature of this war is such that differences of opinion must be few and broad and simple in order to be understood, but the fact that the want of what is usually considered scientific and philosophical nicetymindedness is the key to it. Against the Rebellion, as Truth is always in arms against falsehood, and the quarrel, albeit a mortal one, admits of small disputation between parties. It presents but a narrow field for the display of ingenious sophistry. The sense of right is plain and prompt.

Maryland is evidently a healthy and growing State.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS IN MARYLAND.

The speech with which the Governor Abrogation of the Constitution of Maryland, had in the expectation that constitutional reforms in other parts of the Russian Empire were a cause of great alarm to the Government. The Gazette of St. Petersburg repeatedly confirmed this impression by declaring that the work of representative constitution would be given to the people of the Empire. We have learn from the official papers that the change is about to be brought about for the organization of the provincial and municipal institutions of Russia, with the exception of the Western and Baltic provinces, Archangel, Astrana, and Courland.

The Journal de St. Petersburg speaks of constitutional monarchy in Russia. The rights of the nobles, and peace principles of the old Russian law compared with these stipend by other Russian nations still it is a step to and a most important step in the right direction, as Congress implies. The bills of the Russian population are to be chosen from the electors, who in the small number of bodies and papers published in Russia clearly shows. The introduction of a representative system of government will very contribute to the stimulation of the whole people, and will be followed by a marked influence upon the destiny of Europe.

ARMANDS.

Dr. Pano Murphy, now the Union candidate for Congress in the Second District, received his first county (Montgomery) in the Convention which took place in Rockville, on the 4th inst. He is a majority of the delegates, was elected a Unionist, and a Unionist he remained while in the hands of leaders who would have preferred Secession and fall of Sumter. The vote i scores was 59 Yes, 1 No. The Murphy—Good Government—of Mason, Davis, and Company, that would have shaken up men who could not be shaken. All his last friends deserted and treated him to make the vote unanimous; and he answered "Never! am a slaveholder, in the Lord's name I will not vote for a resolution to the death of Slavery." He now says Secession is dead, and Slavery is dying, and he cannot control but record that he pronounced words and popular chief magistrate of the State of Arkansas.

The family of Mr. Fulton, No. 45 Elizabeth street, were poisoned a few days since by eating some ham. A girl of two years old died. The symptoms were said by the use of arsenic. A microscopic examination revealed the fact that the ham was cured with poisonous substances. The meat looked well and smelled perfectly good.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

The Late Reconnoissance—Crossing of the Rapidan.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 8, 1864.

From your correspondent T. C. G. we have the following full account of the recent reconnoissance.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Monday, Feb. 8, 1864.

The heavy reconnoissance sent out to the Rapidan on Friday evening and Saturday morning last returned to camp last night having, it is asserted, accomplished the object of its mission—the exact position and probable strength of the army of North Virginia.

Had the weather been more propitious the operations of the reconnoitering party would undoubtedly have been more extended. But, as it is, enough has been ascertained to justify even the sacrifice of the heroic spirits, who, having passed unscathed through a hundred leaden storms, were destined here to fall martyrs to the great Rebellion. Two hundred and fifty in killed, wounded, and missing, will cover our total loss of which ten per cent will correctly indicate our killed and mortally wounded.

As the principal fighting was done by Gen. Warren, I will first give a detailed account of the operations of the 2d Corps. The 2d Corps, under the command of Brig.-Gen. Cauldwell, Gen. Warren being temporarily indisposed, left camp at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, taking the road leading to Morton's Ford. The men were supplied with three days' rations, as were all the troops engaged in the reconnoissance.

The Corps reached the cavalry reserve within half a mile of the Rapidan, at 10 o'clock, a. m., when a consultation between Gens. Cauldwell, Webb and Hayes, commanding respectively the first, second and third divisions, was held, and a crossing of the river decided upon. Brig.-Gen. Hayes commanding the third division was directed to lead the advance, which he did in person, fording the river waist deep, on foot, at the head of Gen. J. T. Owens, third brigades. The Rebel sharpshooters, in rifle pits, on the other side, kept up a galling fire while a battery stationed on the hills to the right, and a mile beyond the ford, hotly shelled the advancing column.

Capt. Arnold, in command of Battery A, 1st Rhode Island Artillery, and which has so often been mentioned in connection with the 2d Corps, was at this time placed in position on a bluff several hundred yards from the river on the north side, and did excellent service in responding to the enemy's guns, which were mainly directed against the fording party. The fire of the enemy was unusually wild, and but few casualties occurred in Gen. Owen's brigade.

On reaching the south bank of the river, a charge was made on the Rebel rifle-pits, and 28 men and an officer captured. A few of the prisoners regarded their situation when taken with indifference, and the majority seemed inclined to rejoice rather than weep at the fate which had befallen them. The prisoners taken were members of Virginia, Georgia, and Mississippi regiments. The brigade was posted in line of battle to the left and half a mile beyond the ford, under the shelter of several crests of hills, the fire of several Rebel guns [being still directed upon them from the hights above the ford.

The 4th and 126th New-York were then deployed as skirmishers nearly at right angles with the river, with orders to force back the enemy as far as possible. Sharp skirmishing then ensued, the enemy's line gradually retiring before our skirmishers. The right wing of the skirmish line was commanded by Col. Bull of the 126th, and the left by Lieut.-Col. Baird of the same regiment, and here it is but justice to state that the latter officer won the highest commendation from Gen. Hayes and other general officers for an exhibition of gallantry seldom witnessed on the battle field.

Col. B., it will be remembered, was dismissed for misbehavior in presence of the enemy at the surrender of Harper's Ferry. Assured of his innocence of the charge of cowardice, he was afterward reinstated by the President, and by the Governor of his State promoted from major to lieutenant-colonel—the position which he now holds in his old regiment. Those of his regiment instrumental in his dismissal are now ready to testify to his merit as a gallant soldier. At 12 m., Col. Carroll, commanding the 1st Brigade of Gen. Hays's division, crossed to the support of the 3d, and at 5 p. m. Col. Powell, 2d Brigade, followed.

The position occupied by Col. Powers's brigade being an exposed one, his command suffered more than any other. It was nearly dusk when the brigade mentioned got into position, and at this time the heaviest fighting occurred. The 39th and 126th New-York, having occupied the picket line all day, were relieved by the 14th Connecticut, which suffered more severely than any other regiment engaged during the day.

Some little disorder at one time occurred on the right of the skirmish line, but it was almost instantly checked by the officers in command. The fight continued fiercely until half an hour after dusk, when the cannonading and musketry ceased, and all was quiet except occasional shots from the sharpshooters. At half-past eight p. m. Gen. Webb's second division was ordered to ford the river to support the third.

At midnight Gen. Warren, who had come down to the front in the afternoon, received orders to recross his troops, which he did in good order and without being molested by the enemy. One division of the Third Corps, the Second, marched on Saturday afternoon to the support of Gen. Warren, but their services were not needed.

Gen. Alex. Hayes, commanding the Third Division of the Second Corps, whose reckless daring on many a battle-field has excited the astonishment and admiration of his troops, met with a narrow escape while on the other side of the river.

A Rebel bullet pierced his trowsers, burying itself in his saddle, without, however, inflicting a wound. Above the flag of his division is a white silk streamer, presented to him by members of his command, bearing the words: "My God, My Country, and Gen. Hayes." The inscription is indorsed by "the boys," among whom he is a great favorite. Capt. J. C. Lynch, A. I. General of the Division, had the top of his hat blown away by a shell during the engagement.

MOVEMENT OF THE CAVALRY.

Gen. Kilpatrick, accompanied by Battery C, 3d Artillery, Lieut. Kelly, left camp at 7 o'clock a. m. on Saturday morning, and, after several feints, crossed at Culpepper Mine Ford, where six Rebel pickets belonging to Hampton's Legion were found posted. On crossing, detachments were sent out to scour the country in every direction. Col. Alger, commanding the 5th Michigan, was sent on the macadamized pike to Robertson's Tavern, while Gen. Kilpatrick, with the main body, proceeded down the Fredericksburg plankroad to the vicinity of Chancellorsville, meeting no infantry force, and but small parties of cavalry, who fell back before his advance.

In accordance with instructions he returned to the vicinity of Culpepper Ford on Saturday night to await further orders, and was there directed to return to camp, which he did the next day. On recrossing, Maj. White with one battalion was sent up the river for the purpose of capturing any pickets which might be stationed at the upper fords. He recrossed the river at Jacob's Mills, where four or five vedettes were taken prisoners.

Gen. Kilpatrick's reconnoissance conclusively proves that no force of the enemy occupies the country east of Mine Run. The small parties of cavalry all belonged to Hampton's Legion, which is stationed at Fredericksburg. More than half the vedettes have no horses, are seldom relieved, and are sometimes obliged to walk 23 miles to their post of duty. The Rebels are represented as being engaged in replanking the road from Chancellorsville to Orange Court-House, and are laying out several new roads through the wilderness.

Twelve or fifteen prisoners were captured by Gen. K., and he returned to his camp yesterday evening without having lost a man during his reconnoissance. At cavalry headquarters last night special details of Gen. Merrill's operations had been received, except that he had been to Madison Court-House, and that he was at the time his courier was dispatched on Saturday night at Barnett's Ford. He had encountered no considerable force of the enemy, and had met with no losses.

MOVEMENTS OF THE FIRST AND THIRD CORPS.

The First Corps, Gen. Newton, left its camp on the night of Friday, 5th inst., and proceeded to the vicinity of Raccoon Ford. The corps, which was afterward followed by two divisions of the Third, encamped two miles from the river, but no important demonstrations against the enemy were made.

Warren's movements on the left seem to have drawn the main body of the enemy to Morton's Ford, while at Raccoon Ford but comparatively a small body was observable on the opposite bank of the river. Our total loss is covered by 200, but a small proportion being among the killed. Nearly 100 Rebel prisoners were sent to headquarters this morning.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 8, 1864.

The Star of this evening has the following:

Parties coming from the front represent that we experienced considerable loss on the return of our troops from the late demonstration.

It is stated that some of our pontoons were lost at the Rapidan, whereby the enemy was enabled to pick up some of our men who had not recrossed.

It is also stated that a Rebel cavalry force, crossing above Morton's Ford, intercepted a couple of our regiments, who were forced to cut their way through, with some loss.

These reports, it should be added, are not at all definite, and have not, up to noon to-day, been confirmed by anything received at the War Department.

LATER.

Parties arriving from the front this forenoon state that when our troops pushed across at Germanna Ford, they found the Rebel rifle-pits in that immediate vicinity occupied by but twenty five pickets, who threw down their arms and surrendered, stating that there was no Rebel force within two miles of their position.

Immediately thereafter our forces pushed in the direction of Orange Court House, but had hardly progressed two miles before they were opened upon.

Attacking the Rebel force working and supporting these guns, we drove them from their position, with considerable loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, our loss in the affair being 35.

The mass of our infantry then recrossed the Rapidan, leaving a force to hold the rifle pits first taken until the operations of our cavalry, which had moved by a different route, had terminated.

Heavy firing is said to have been heard yesterday, and it was believed about Culpepper that our cavalry was then engaged with the enemy it had been seeking.

FROM GEN. GRANT'S ARMY.

Burning of the Bridge at Strawberry Plains—Skirmishing and Falling Back—A Drove of Cattle Change Hands—The Enemy Retire.

From Our Special Correspondent.

KNOXVILLE, E. T., Jan. 25, 1864.

The three days intervening since the date of my last letter have brought some important changes in the military line. We have had, within a week, one advance and two retreats—I mean changes of base. Knoxville has been threatened with another siege, at least some people thought so. The enemy has followed our slowly retiring troops to within four miles of this town. The countenances of Rebels, male and otherwise, have become gleeful; the Union people's rueful. Fast and sound winded horses remain demand, and sutlers' goods declined on the market. We have lost a drove of fat cattle, and the enemy, satisfied with the prize or alarmed by the sight of so many dead horses as they approached the town, have left, and we breathe freer.

On Tuesday morning, two days after the fight at Dandridge, the cavalry having been withdrawn and thrown round, so as to operate upon and threaten the enemy's left flank toward Sevierville, the remaining forces were disposed along the right and left bank of the Holston as follows: One division of the 9th Army Corps on the left and one on the right bank of the river. The 2d Division of the 23d Army Corps held the roads to New-Market and Dandridge. Gen. Ferrero's division commenced crossing the bridge at Strawberry Plains on Monday night at 11 o'clock. Gen. Manson's division crossed on Thursday morning, the last of his forces getting over about daylight, immediately after which the bridge was fired. The enemy appeared shortly after sunrise, approaching on the New-Market road in the form of cavalry, with a six gun battery. In a short time they occupied all the hights on the left bank of the river, and took possession of the fort on College Hill and all the rifle-pits that had been made by the Union forces. Gen. Manson had a regiment at the ferry, and the 111th Ohio, stationed in the bottom at the bridge, to prevent the enemy from extinguishing the fire of the burning structure. This bridge had cost three weeks of hard labor to complete it, and it had been in use less than one week. The enemy's skirmishers commenced firing rapidly upon the 111th Ohio, and several men were wounded. We brought a battery to bear on them, and, according to the statement of a deserter, one of the first few shots killed a Rebel and three horses standing near the block-house.

The enemy's force was ascertained to be the whole of their cavalry, in command of Major-Gen. Martin, and three brigades of infantry, the division under command of Gen. Armstrong. An intelligent deserter who surrendered to Gen. Manson, and who was closely questioned by him, states that there have been no late *reinforcements of Longstreet, so far as he has heard, and he had seen none.*

The enemy's skirmishers soon made their appearance at various points along the south side of the river, bringing across upon our pickets, and during the forenoon one of our men was killed by a shot from the opposite side of the Holston. Having completed the destruction of the bridge, our forces retired in line of battle, and were closely followed by a portion of the enemy's cavalry, which had already forded the river above and below Strawberry Plains. We deployed our forces to the right and left of the Rutledge road, falling back and steadily skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry, fighting sometimes on foot, at other times mounted. It was deemed unsafe to retire by the flank along the road, as the troops would then have been exposed to a charge of the enemy's cavalry, as well as liable to be shelled by their batteries. The retreat was made leisurely, the troops being halted and formed in line upon reaching each advantageous position along the route. There was no excitement, the troops acting with perfect steadiness, the only mystery to them being why they were thus retreating before a force which they felt abundantly able to cope with. As the bulk of the army had already been withdrawn to other important points, it seems to have been no part of the plan to bring on an engagement with that portion of it remaining to cover the rear until nearer Knoxville. During the afternoon, Lieut. Metzler of the 46th New-York Volunteers was shot dead while in charge of a party of skirmishers. About the same time a Rebel cavalryman was shot from his horse, and the animal was also wounded in one of its legs by a pistol shot. The Rebels charged in and carried off the dead man, leaving the riderless animal limping over the field upon three legs. This animal—a fine black mare—your correspondent took possession of, and for some time has been engaged in the philanthropic work of trying to restore it to health and activity, his former Bucephalus having gone the way of most good horseflesh in Tennessee—been stolen. N. B.—At last accounts my wounded Rebel mare was in *articulo mortis.*

Having fallen back to within five miles of Knoxville, our forces reached a line of hills stretching across the valley and the railroad, where they made a stand and prepared to give battle. Night, however, set in, and put an end to the firing on both sides, or it was only continued in a desultory way between the pickets.

LOSS OF A DROVE OF CATTLE.

During the day, while our troops were occupied with the Rebels immediately in front, an interesting flank movement was going on, of which we had no saving knowledge. A drove of Kentucky cattle, which had been waiting orders at Beaver Ridge for some two days, in charge of a Captain and a detachment of the 10th Michigan Cavalry, was surprised, captured, and driven to the rear by a Rebel cavalry force sent round upon the Clinton or Sock's Ferry Road. The drove originally consisted of one thousand head, but losses along the road may have reduced them to eight hundred. At the time of their capture they were within five miles of Knoxville. Major Shannon of the 101st Ohio Volunteer Infantry has since been out with a detachment and retaken ninety of the beeves, which had straggled from the main herd. It is due to the Major to say that he had no previous connection with the drove.

The party in charge of the latter, if reports be correct, made no fight for the possession of the herd; perhaps the strength of the Rebel cavalry rendered resistance useless, and the finest drove of cattle which ever fed the lean sides of a famishing army, fell an easy prey to Rebel stomachs. The Rebels captured 7 drovers, 5 soldiers, and 9 citizens, total, 21. They took the drove up the Poor Valley, or Millar's Road, and divided them into two droves, one being taken toward Blain's Cross Roads, and the other to Strawberry Plains.

This maneuver is so much like a repetition of the proceeding at Bean's Station, where the Rebels captured our train of sugar and coffee just coming in from the Gap, it would almost seem that they must have been apprised of the presence of the cattle at Beaver Ridge, where they had been halted, and that this dash upon our front was, in part, for the purpose of obtaining possession of the valuable prize. These cattle probably are equal to a week's rations of beef for the whole Rebel army of Longstreet.

On Saturday morning the Union forces were in position to give the Rebels an open field and a fair fight, but daylight revealed—"no enemy in front." They had withdrawn during the night, and only a small picket force was found this side of the river. They had recrossed Armstrong's Ford, and taken the road to Strawberry Plains. Col. Chapin, with a regiment, reconnoitered the roads for several miles, meeting with no enemy. Gen. Manson and staff rode early to the ford, and found only a few skirmishers who skedaddled at their approach. A deserter from an Alabama regiment, who remained behind as the Rebels recrossed the river, gave himself up to Gen. Manson, and made some apparently truthful and important statements touching the force, position and *morale* of the Rebel army.

All sorts of rumors prevailed as to the present whereabouts of the Rebel army. One of these is to the effect that Longstreet, while sending his cavalry and a detachment of infantry against us at Dandridge, crossed the French Broad above, near the base of the Smoky Mountains, and has gone to join Hardee in Georgia or elsewhere. This is doubted. Another, and more probable theory is that he has moved toward Tazewell and Cumberland Gap, and that the business of operating upon our Western line of communications will be left to the cavalry under Wheeler and Morgan, who have been also reported as coming up toward the Tennessee. One remarkable incident of all these episodes in one campaign in East Tennessee is the Rebels, whenever there is the least cause of excitement, are as busy as the Devil in a gale of wind putting all manner of reports in circulation by way of giving aid and comfort to their friends outside. As I close my letter, affairs have assumed perfect quiet along our lines. The General commanding has made such disposition of the forces as to render a surprise from any direction impossible. E. S.

The Situation at Knoxville—The Engagement at Dandridge—Why our Forces were Withdrawn—Change of Position by our Troops—The Defenses of Knoxville—Destruction of the Bridge at Strawberry Plains.

From Our Special Correspondent.

KNOXVILLE, East Tenn., Jan. 22, 1864.

Before this reaches you, the telegraph, through the regular military channel, will probably reveal the history of events which my letter can only dimly foreshadow. Military authorities here are divided in opinion as to whether Knoxville is to be again besieged, or the few days or weeks next succeeding are to witness a struggle between our own forces and those of Longstreet, and his reported reenforcements outside for the possession of a valuable foraging district, viz., the Valleys of the Big and Little Pigeon Rivers, two tributaries of the French Broad, entering that river at equal distances above and below Dandridge.

This region is at a distance of twenty five or thirty miles a little north of east from Knoxville. From our late position at Strawberry Plains it is due east about eighteen miles, with Bay's Mountain intervening. The forces of Longstreet, which had occasionally occupied this disputed territory by their cavalry, were at Morristown, about the same distance from Dandridge in a northeast direction. In a previous letter I gave some particulars of the engagement which took place at Dandridge on Saturday and Sunday last. A considerable force of infantry of the Fourth Army Corps was within a short distance (five miles) of the town but only one infantry regiment, sent forward as skirmishers, was engaged. Col. Woolford gives them the credit of fighting with the most determined valor.

Gen. Sturgis with his cavalry, ably sustained by Col. Woolford and Gen. Elliot, held a large infantry force of Rebels for over two hours, losing nor ninety men during that time in killed and wounded. Col. Woolford occupied a position next to the river, and held his position until after dark, when the Rebels built campfires for the night. Woolford's men cautiously advanced and opened fire upon them at less than fifty yards, when the Rebels fled in confusion. He drove them over a mile and a half, until he deemed himself far enough for safety in the rear of the main line of the enemy, whose camp fires were plainly visible at an oblique line to his left and rear.

The men were all in good spirits and were expecting, and were prepared for, a stiffer fight on the following day. With the exception of one time during the afternoon, when our line was slightly pressed back, the Union forces held their own. The fight continued until after dark; the infantry were moving forward, apparently for the purpose of taking position for the following day, when, under orders from headquarters, General Hascall halted his command, and, about 9 o'clock p. m., a retrograde movement commenced in the direction of Strawberry Plains. The march occupied most of the night, and was a dreary and comfortless one, on account of the muddy condition of the roads and the heavy lumbering wagon trains. Our wounded were recovered and brought off the field, and reached the hospitals at Knoxville by the Dandridge road.

In the town the stillness of death reigned for the space of one hour after our long wagon and ambulance trains had passed out of hearing. Nothing but the barking of a dog, or the crowing of a cock, disturbed the midnight stillness. Shortly the sound of a heavy body of cavalry awakened echoes along the road and hill side, and it was evident the Rebels were about to attack our rear guard. They approached us, however, with caution, and it was near 10 o'clock, on Monday morning, when the enemy's cavalry came up with our infantry rear guard, and attacked. The determined attitude of our infantry line, however, kept them at a respectful distance, and the only effect was to oblige us to burn a few wagons which had become "stalled."

The cavalry passed the bridge at Strawberry Plains during Monday, and on Tuesday the infantry and wagon trains also passed over. Gen. Hascall's Division remained upon the south side to protect the passage of the troops and train.

The infantry, some affirm, suffered more during this march, through the sloughs of mud, stiffened and chilled by the falling snow, than they have during any march of equal distance since they entered the service.

These facts will go to show that it was not on account of any defeat upon the field of battle that our forces were withdrawn, but from other and prudential reasons.

It is understood that Gen. Parke had, during the day, received trustworthy information that the two corps of Ewell and Hill had re-enforced Longstreet, and a movement of another kind became necessary. Since the time above mentioned our forces have so changed their position as to place themselves in front of Longstreet on the south side of the Holston and French Broad rivers to prevent any possible junction of Longstreet with Hardee, who is "reported" to be advancing from below. The works for the defense of Knoxville on both sides of the river are already occupied by both infantry and artillery. The roads were in such condition as to render the drawing of artillery next to impossible, and the chief batteries not wanted at the front have been brought down in the cars.

THE BRIDGE AT STRAWBERRY PLAINS DESTROYED.

There has been a considerable artillery duel at Strawberry Plains during the day, and from the best information I can obtain there is little doubt but that the bridge was destroyed to-day by our forces, as they fell back toward Knoxville.

There is considerable excitement again in the town, in prospect of a renewal of the siege, and a general stampede is going on of citizens to Kentucky—many of them for the third time. We are upon the verge of startling events.

I shall send this letter by the hand of a gentleman going through to Cincinnati. It may be some time before your correspondent will again be able to communicate, by mail or otherwise, with the readers of THE TRIBUNE, as the roads will no doubt be soon occupied and everything stopped; but he will endeavor to keep such a record of events as will be of interest touching the progress of the campaign, provided he is able to send forward his letters. E. S.

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

The Election—Secessionists Mum—Loyalists Taking the President's Amnesty Oath—Union Men in Earnest—Style of Campaign—Candidates for Governor—An Election Hand-bill—No War News—A Mexican Envoy—Claim for 75,000 Stand of Arms—The Sub-Treasury Again Open.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NEW-ORLEANS, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 1864.

The election to be held on the 22d proximo continues to be the engrossing topic here, among Union men. Whether the sullen and gloomy Secessionists make it a subject of conversation in the mysterious conferences which they hold with one another as often as opportunity offers, I cannot say. Their general deportment in public would indicate that they do not. Of course they will take no part in the election, because subscribing to President Lincoln's oath—called "the iron-clad"—is one of the qualifications necessary to electors. Indeed it has come to be a question of some importance whether some undoubted Union men will go to the polls, because many have objections to this requirement. They say that this form of obligation was drawn up to meet the case of repentant Rebels, and that a citizen of Louisiana who has never committed any act of disloyalty, and whose conduct has been a practical protest against the treasonable acts of former State authorities, has no more business taking this oath than a citizen of Massachusetts, or than President Lincoln himself. They have no unwillingness to give a solemn pledge to support the action of the Government on the Slavery question; but they will not cheerfully make a record for themselves from which a stranger to their several private histories might reasonably infer that at some time or another they were disloyal. It is very natural that a man who has heretofore been proscribed and persecuted because of his bearing true faith and allegiance to his Government, should dislike to place himself in such a position that he is liable to be confounded with his persecutors. It is objected, moreover, that there have been three registrations of voters in this city already; and why a man who was good enough and bold enough to vote under Gen. Butler's administration of affairs in this Department, should be required to add still another oath to his list of qualifications as an elector, is not particularly apparent.

I do not think, however, that this little matter will seriously affect the number of votes that will be cast. The Union men of this city especially are too earnest in their desire for a speedy reorganization of civil government to let any minor considerations drive them from the path in which they are now making good progress. The registration under the new orders has been going on very rapidly for the last three or four days, and will become still more rapid as the time for the election approaches.

Although this election will be in some respects an ex-parte affair, those who are opposed to the policy of the Administration having little or nothing to do with it, there are now indications that the canvass will be conducted in something like the spirited style of old-time political campaigns. Already we have meetings every night, numerous speeches from good and bad orators, committees and clubs distributing documents, and indeed all the machinery of politics in full play. The editors of *The Era*, *Times* and *True Delta* have made the election the text for many elaborate editorials, and even *The Picayune* and *Bee* cannot entirely avoid mentioning it.

No candidate or set of candidates will probably make a walking race of it. The Convention called by the Free State General Committee, delegates to which have been elected in primary meetings in every ward and in most of the parishes within the Union lines, will meet next Monday, the 1st of February. As I remarked in a former letter, I have no doubt but that this Convention will name the man who will eventually fill the offices. That Mr. Rufus Maples, a distinguished lawyer of this city, will be its nominee for the office of Governor, seems equally certain at present. But there will be one, perhaps two other candidates. The friends of Judge Whittaker seem to dislike trusting the chance of their favorite to the Convention, and Mr. Michael Hahn proprietor of *The True Delta*, and late [illegible] to Congress from New Orleans, is well and [illegible] to be booked for the race as an independent candidate. This gentleman's name should be printed in connection this office approves to give offense to a number of the most zealous Free State men, and they object to him vigorously.

I have before me a handbill that they have issued against him, from which it appears that Mr. Hahn held and exercised the functions of an officer, Notary [illegible] under the Rebel Gov. Moore from the 1st of February to April 13, 1862, and that afterwards, in qualifying as United States Prize Commissioner, he swore that he had "neither sought nor accepted, nor attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States," and that he had not given "aid, countenance, counsel or encouragement to persons in armed hostility thereto" &c. The same handbill also cites from *The N. O. Crescent* and from *The Picayune* of May 23, 1861, reports of a speech made by Mr. Hahn in presenting a Rebel flag to the "Calhoun Guards," and asks the question, "Is this a record worthy of a Union Governor?" What counter statement he or his friends can make concerning the facts stated I do not know. That he is now a sincere Union man, whatever he may have been heretofore, no one pretends to question, though some seem to doubt as to his perfect soundness on the Free State question.

The maxim *inter arma silent leges*, which by liberal translation means that while a war is going on politics must stop has been reversed in this department. While the election is pending the war has come to a stand still. As yet there are no indications of any further important movements occurring soon, though there is some changing about among the garrisons of the different posts. An expedition left here for Madisonville, La., a week or ten days ago, which it was thought might have some interesting adventures, but no such expectations have been realized.

The weather has been gloriously fine for two weeks, and our men in Texas have improved it by perfecting arrangements for getting the best water attainable into the camps, and by putting up shelters, fortifications against northers being quite as serviceable as against biped Southrons. There is nothing new concerning the enemy.

A Mexican officer of considerable distinction, Col. Francisco N. de Bordon, has recently arrived in this city and engaged in the work of "spreading useful and correct information in the United States," concerning the present condition of affairs in Mexico. He is accredited by President Juarez, and has been empowered and directed to forward the interests of the Liberal Government in every possible way, and is, therefore, a diplomat somewhat after the style of the Confederate agents in Europe. It was his intention originally to locate in Washington City, but he now thinks that he has a better base of operations here, and will, therefore, remain. He has within a few days commissioned Col. Coolbough, late a volunteer aid-de-camp on the staff of Major-Gen. McPherson, to proceed to Washington City and there procure, if possible, the release of 75,000 stand of arms purchased by the Mexican Government in the United States before the commencement of the French invasion, and which arms they have not been able to ship heretofore on account of the blockade. The Colonel proved himself a gallant soldier during the siege of Vicksburg, and possibly he will achieve equal distinction as a diplomatist.

New-Orleans once more has a Sub-Treasury. Col. Thomas P. May, Assistant Treasurer of the United States, opened his office for the transaction of business on Monday last. This office has been vacant during the Rebellion, and the present incumbent found no books, records, or furniture to start with. He consequently has opened accounts and begun *de novo*. Great inconvenience to parties having financial transactions with the Government, both here and in New-York, will be avoided by this reopening of this branch of the Treasury. Perhaps we'll start the Mint next. VOCATIVA.

FROM SANDUSKY.

Inhuman Treatment of Brave Men by Railroad Corporations—Military Matters on Johnson's Island—Rebel Officers Anxious to Take the Oath—Exciting Scenes Among the Rebel Prisoners—Narrow Escape from Death.

From Our Special Correspondent.

HEADQUARTERS 3D DIVISION 6TH CORPS, SANDUSKY, Ohio, Jan. 30, 1864.

It is proper that some public acknowledgment should be made for the promptness with which the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark Railroad have ever responded to the calls of the Government. In no case was their business promptitude better illustrated than in the transportation of Gen. Terry's troops from Newark to Sandusky, a distance of 120 miles. Upon the arrival of the 1,600 soldiers composing the troops under Gen. Terry's command at Newark, passenger cars were in readiness with warm fires, and after these were occupied box cars were prepared with stoves and plenty of straw for the half-frozen men to rest their wearied forms upon. Upon the Baltimore and Ohio, as well as the Central Ohio roads, the most reprehensible neglect for the comfort and safety of our veterans was apparent from the time we left Washington until we reached Newark, a period of five days. The troops were packed in cars, without straw or fires to guard against freezing, and with 40 men in iron and cattle cars. Those brave men suffered from the bitter cold weather and for want of sleep for five days. Quite a number were severely frost-bitten, and it is estimated that several men will not recover from the sickness contracted on this terrible trip. Three have already died from the effects of this treatment and needless exposure.

It would seem that such serious abuses as the above, which are of frequent occurrence on railroads where troops in large bodies are transported at one time, demand the immediate attention of Government. Gen. H. D. Terry and the medical staff of the 1st Brigade will substantiate all that I have stated.

AFFAIRS ON JOHNSON'S ISLAND.

There are some 2,600 Rebel prisoners, all commissioned Rebel officers, now confined on Johnson's Island. Gen. Terry, with his usual foresight, has had a sufficient quantity of provisions stored on Johnson's Island, to last the garrison and prisoners two months. A complete system of espionage is maintained between Point au Pelé and the various islands in Sandusky Bay, some of which are inhabited by Englishmen who are bitter Rebel sympathizers, but principally by Canadians engaged extensively in the grape culture. Gen. Terry has likewise ordered a stronger guard, and the utmost vigilance is shown by Col. Bassett, the present efficient commander of the Island. The artillery is in position, and woe be unto the raiders from without, or the captive conspirators within, should either venture to interfere with the military regulations of this important post. The arms and ammunition of the garrison are daily inspected, and are in excellent condition, while the troops were never physically or mentally in finer spirits, nor better prepared to have what they call "a little fun" with invaders just from Canada. The present military force, with the extra precautions taken to guard against disturbances of any kind, place Johnson's Island out of all danger.

REBEL OFFICERS ANXIOUS TO TAKE THE OATH.

A large number of the prisoners are anxiously awaiting an opportunity to take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. By officers familiar with the prisoners it is estimated that upward of 500 will avail themselves of the privileges of the oath. A perfect reign of terror is maintained by the incorrigible and bitter traitors within the prisons, who threaten the life of any of the repentant Rebels whom they may suspect of being desirous to take the oath to our Government. A few cases will suffice to illustrate how intense is this treasonable and fiendish feeling among these relentless and desperate traitors.

Not long ago a Captain wrote a letter to one of his Rebel friends in Alabama, commenting upon Gen. Gillmore's ability to destroy the city of Charleston with Greek fire. He said he rejoiced to hear the news, and he prayed God Almighty would aid the Yankees to rain brimstone and Greek fire on the sink of iniquity. One of the clerks detailed to examine the letters sent from the prisoners to their relatives South, copied this letter and sent it to a small local paper. The extracts were extensively copied in the various State papers, and finally found their way into *The Sandusky Register*, which has quite a daily circulation among the prisoners. The seditious paragraph was read amid the greatest excitement to the exasperated Rebels, and in a few moments the news spread throughout the prison among the 2,600 prisoners, and such howls of indignation, and threats of eternal vengeance, coupled with the vilest profanity, never before assailed the human ear. An investigating committee, consisting of three prominent officers, was appointed to wait upon the suspected Captain, to learn if he was the author of the objectionable article. The rope dangled in the would-be murderers' hands, who stood ready to launch the victim of their hatred into eternity. The doomed man was approached, and soon read his terrible fate in the looks of the chivalrous assassins. He was asked if he wrote the letter.

Reading the paper slowly, he told the infuriated Rebels that he would give them an answer in fifteen minutes. The deputation were loth to depart, and were urged by the crowd of prisoners to "hang the d—d Yankee spy on the spot." The only hope of [illegible] for him was in the arrival of some officer [illegible] before the expiration of the allotted time. The [illegible] of dreadful suspense had flowed [illegible] his eyes, he saw the prisoners [illegible] bands on their watch-dials for [illegible] they felt sure was to witness [illegible]

One of our corporals came [illegible] advancing toward him. [illegible] To start rapidly, in order to [illegible] portal, was sure death, for [illegible] by the crowds of prisoners [illegible] the corporal reached him [illegible] he was outside the walls of the [illegible] his narrow escape from a horrible death.

ANOTHER NARROW ESCAPE.

Another prisoner, a few days [illegible] corporals within the prison [illegible] [illegible] the privilege of [illegible] corporal dropped the note, and [illegible] one of the [illegible] In a few [illegible] officers in charge [illegible] [illegible] found the crowd kicking and [illegible] er, who had signified his desire [illegible] To rescue the man whom the [illegible] soon as the corporal arrived, he [illegible] [illegible] succeeded in getting [illegible] He is now acting as a nurse [illegible] his duties. Several [illegible] occurred, all showing the [illegible] [illegible] of their deluded [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] who repent of [illegible] J. C. R.

TO THE PEOPLE OF ARKANSAS.

The undersigned, citizens of Arkansas, having been on to Washington, D. C., and consulted with the authorities, are happy to announce that an opportunity will be afforded, harmonizing with the action of our late State Convention, to permanently reorganize our State Government, and that for this purpose a popular election will be held in March, A. D. 1864.

The bare announcement ought to thrill every lover of humanity—of his country, and of law and order, with unspeakable joy.

Need we offer argument or appeal to induce you to act?

In Rebellion, is anarchy and sorrow—and anguish, desolation, and ruin irretrievable!

In coming home to the Government of our fathers, is peace, happiness, protection, and hope for the future.

We have been through much of the North, and observed closely. The long and bitter agitation of the Slavery question, and this cruel and bloody war, have not been able to crush out of the hearts of Northern people their love for their Southern brothers. We will not be received back sullenly and bitterly, but by rejoicings and illuminations all over a happy land. They sympathize over our sufferings and sorrows, and with open hands and willing hearts are ready to do their utmost to alleviate them when we return. But they are determined. They are wealthy, powerful in numbers and resources, and full of the war spirit. They will never give up the Government. They know they can maintain and save it, and they mean to do it—even if the last of us should go down to bloody graves.

We hope every man who loves his country and his home will go to work. There can surely be no need of further delay upon our part.

To our brothers and friends who are yet in rebellion we desire to say that an opportunity is offered to lay down your arms, save the remnant of your property, and come in to the support of the Government. It is not humiliating. Your names are blazoned upon history as gallant soldiers. The North, and that portion of the South against which you have fought, will concede your heroism, how much sooner they may condemn your course. Then be men. Be sublimer heroes than when you flamed in battle. Come back, and the world and good men will love and applaud you. Trust not to demagogues and ruined politicians. They are wrecked and hopeless, and would destroy the last one of you in the mad attempt to save themselves. Every day your numbers diminish, and your hopes depart, and your future darkens. You owe it to suffering wives and impoverished children, to ruined communities and destroyed society, to your country and humanity, to abandon a struggle that is wrong and hopeless.

To the refugees from our State, who are scattered all over the land, we urge you to come home and help us. Your principles have been tested in a crucible of fire. Your patriotism is noble and sublime. Many of your former abusers are now your most ardent admirers, and would urge you to return and give them your aid.

To one and all, with united hearts and hands, let us make a noble effort to rescue our distressed and bleeding State from the grasp of her oppressors—and with the sympathy of all good men, and the aid of the national Government, we will again be free!

JOSIAH SNOW, SAMUEL D. BEZAUTE,
JOHN KIRKWOOD, ISAAC C. MILLS,
EDWARD W. GANTT.

Papers favorable to the cause please copy.

Report of the Adjutant-General of New-York.

Adjt.-Gen. Sprague's report contains a complete statement of the volunteer troops organized within the State and sent to the field from April, 1861, to Dec. 31, 1863; a statement of the strength of the volunteer troops in the field on the 31st of August, 1863, and a roster of the officers of the State Volunteers as it stood Dec. 1, 1863; a list of the commissions issued during the year 1863; a statement of the arms and accoutrements of the several State Arsenals, and of those issued to the "National Guard" since Jan. 1, 1863; returns of the Brigade Inspectors; list of organizations of the National Guard formed during the year; roster of the officers of the National Guard; recapitulation of the military of the State; list of the several military districts; result of the draft under the Conscription Law; list of volunteer organizations in the State on the 1st of January, 1863; list of regiments authorized to be raised in this State during the year 1863; reports of Division commanders, &c. Since Jan. 1, 1863, 25,324 men have been organized for the field; 7,206 commissions have been issued. Three regiments of artillery, eight of cavalry, and twenty-five companies of infantry are recruiting. With these exceptions, recruiting has been under direction of the United States Provost-Marshal General since Sept. 1, and exclusively for regiments in the field. It is thought the quota under the call of Oct. 17, 1863, will shortly be filled.

Volunteers sent to the field or mustered into the service of the United States through State authorities	19,350
Recruits sent to regiments in the field through the Superintendent of the recruiting service	1,653
Volunteers organized in the State Dec. 31, 1863	3,091—25,374
Drafted men and substitutes obtained	9,119
Enlisted by Provost Marshals	11,060
Reenlistments in the field (estimated)	10,000—30,226
Militia sent to the defense of Pennsylvania in June and July	13,971
Total	69,551

The total number of troops which have been organized and sent from the State of New-York, commencing April 15, 1861, and ending Dec. 31, 1863, is as follows:

Organized and sent to the field by the authorities of the State	186,369
Recruits sent to regiments in the field through the Superintendent of the Volunteer Recruiting Service	22,673
Organizing in the State December 31, 1863	3,561
Enlisted by Provost Marshals	11,060
Reenlistments in the field (say)	10,000
Drafted men and substitutes	9,118
Total	243,089
Militia, three calls for short service in 1861, 1862 and 1863	29,953
Total	272,342

Of the calls of 1861 the quota of the State was 109,056. Under these calls New-York sent into the field 117,702 men, of these 30,131 men were enlisted for two years—equal to 20,087 three-years men, making it necessary to deduct 10,044 to bring them all to the same denomination, as follows:

Number of three-years men furnished	89,641
Number of two-years men furnished	30,131
Total furnished under calls of 1861	119,772
Reduce to three years men by deducting	10,044
Total number of three-years men furnished	109,618

The quota of the State under the call of July 2, 1862, for 300,000 three-years men, was 59,705. The number furnished under this call was 86,097,

Total furnished under above calls	195,325
Quotas of above calls—1861	109,056
Quotas of above calls—1862	59,705—168,761
Leaves surplus of three-years men	27,064

The quota of the State under the call of the General Government of Aug. 9, 1862, for 300,000 drafted men or volunteers for nine months' service in the Army, was 39,705.

There is a discrepancy in the accounts of the number of men furnished by New-York between the War Department and the State authorities, the former admitting a surplus of 4,651 up to June 11, 1863, the latter claiming 12,851. An adjustment is in progress.

Attention has been paid to the militia. [illegible] pronounced on the [illegible]

[illegible] of $1 upon all enrolled citizens who [illegible] parades ordered; but the act of May, [illegible] all their offenders from the fine. The [illegible] that there are [illegible] men subject [illegible] but [illegible] appeared, leaving [illegible] liable to the fine. If this sum [illegible] it would be divided in putting [illegible] a proper condition. The whole force [illegible] These are divided [illegible] brigades, [illegible] regiments, 1 battalion, [illegible] the number of our organizations complete [illegible] amounting to 7,013 [illegible] 24,457 men. The [illegible] total authorizations issued during the [illegible]

[illegible] reserved militia under the law of April [illegible] The number of persons liable to [illegible] after deducting exempts, as returned by [illegible] permitted to make the enrollment for the [illegible] in July, 1864, was 386,183.

To Soldiers and Postmasters.

Editors of newspapers throughout the United States will doubtless confer a favor on the soldiers in the field, as well as their friends at home, by giving publicity to the following:

[illegible] the law prescribing the articles to be sent [illegible] the mails [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Approved, Jan. 25, 1864

[illegible] DEPARTMENT, Jan. 25, 1864

[illegible] M. BLAIR, Postmaster General.

The Metropolitan Fair.

The Metropolitan Fair for the benefit of sick, wounded, or disabled soldiers of the National Army will be opened in this city on the [illegible] of March next. Its entire proceeds will pass into the Treasury of the Sanitary Commission, which is now badly pressed for money.

Boston has raised $150,000, Chicago $70,000, Cincinnati $300,000, but New York, it is anticipated, will eclipse all these contributions. The Police Department, the Fire Department, the civic societies, the various trade and other organizations, have conferred in relation to the subject, and some of them have appointed committees to insure active cooperation.

It is not intended that this Fair shall be a fancy show, a gorgeous bazaar, a museum of curiosities merely. In its plan and scope it is designed to be worthy of the metropolis in which it is held, and of the noble cause to which it administers relief. Its alimentary will enlist the sympathy and gratify the taste of its loyal patrons in every phase of social and political life. In its getting up it will afford work for all who are willing to work, and an opportunity for every body to contribute. When it opens, the first two days will probably be devoted to an exhibition, after which it will become a temporary market for the sale of all kinds of produce and merchandise.

The grounds selected for this purpose are the site of the Palace Gardens, in Fourteenth street, where there is a building adapted to the purpose. This structure will be enlarged, making it 200 by 400 feet, the whole to be covered by a roof of a single span on brick walls. The ultimate design of the building will be to provide an arsenal for Col. Aspinwall's regiment. In this way a double purpose will be served.

Many advantages must arise from this humane and patriotic endeavor to promote the objects of the Commission. It will combine and harmonize public feeling in relation to the war, and kindle the tenderest sympathy for the soldier. It will keep alive the spirit of patriotism, which sometimes becomes faint in the bosoms of those who are remote from the seat of strife. It will throng our city with visitors from all parts of the country, and benefit every branch of trade and industry. It will give relief to the brave men to whom we are indebted for protection from the assaults of our republican and merciless enemies. It will afford a magnificent exposition of our manufacturing, agricultural, commercial, literary and artistic resources.

Merchants, manufacturers, artisans, farmers, painters, sculptors, authors, editors, publishers, booksellers, musicians, our public schools, our public institutions, with all classes of men are invited to give something to this grand Metropolitan Fair.

There will be a department of arms, in which may be seen arms, flags, and other trophies captured in the present war. A curiosity shop, a restaurant, and a post-office, will be opened. A newspaper will be published daily recording the striking events, and furnishing telegraphic and city news.

A member of the Executive Committee will be at the head of each Special Committee. The following are the officers of the Ladies' Association:

President, Mrs. Hamilton Fish; First V. P., Mrs. David Lane, Second V. P., Mrs. [illegible] Stuart; Treasurer, Mrs. Ell[illegible] Strong, Secretary, Mrs. John Sherwood; Assistant Secretary, Miss Catharine Nash. Executive Committee—Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts, Mrs. Francis Lieber, Mrs. Wm. H. Van [illegible], Mrs. Richard M. Hunt, Mrs. [illegible], Mrs. Alfred Schermerhorn, Mrs. David Dudley Field, Mrs. Samuel G. Courtney, Mrs. Daniel Le Roy, Mrs. Benjamin Nathan, Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mrs. Gordon Burnham, Mrs. [illegible] [illegible] S. Colgate, Mrs. Frank [illegible], Mrs. John A. Dix, Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, jr., Mrs. Thomas Hawley, Mrs. Philip Hamilton, Mrs. Frederick Billings, Mrs. Maria Ketchum, Miss Catherine Hone.

GENTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION.—President, Major-Gen. John A. Dix; First Vice President, Mr. Jonathan Sturges; Second Vice President, Mr. James T. Brady; Chairman of General Committee, Mr. Wilson G. Hunt; Secretary, Mr. Richard Grant White.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Mr. George Griswold Gray, Mr. Richard Grant White, Secretary; Mr. Marshall O. Roberts, Mr. Arthur Leary, Mr. James L. Kennedy, Mr. Charles H. Marshall, Mr. Alex. Van Rensselaer, Mr. Nathaniel P. Hosack, Mr. Peter Marié, Mr. Abraham M. Cozzens, Mr. Lawrence Jerome, Mr. William T. Blodgett, Mr. Fletcher Harper, Mr. Lloyd Aspinwall, Mr. William Schermerhorn, Mr. Levi P. Morton, Mr. Christian E. Detmold, Mr. Henry Chauncey, Mr. Charles Astor Bristed, Mr. Thomas Acton, Mr. C. Godfrey Gunther, Mr. Henry B. Fearing, Mr. Augustus R. Macdonough, Mr. Francis A. Stout, Mr. James A. Roosevelt, Mr. Le Grand B. Cannon, Mr. Edward Bullard, Mr. John F. Kensett, Mr. James F. Ruggles, Mr. Moses Lazarus, Mr. Joseph O. Heywood, Mr. Philetus T. Holt, Mr. Ethel A. Murdock, Mr. Elliott F. Shepard, Mr. Edward Matthews, Mr. S. B. James.

Contributions to the Fair are to be sent to the receiving depot, No. 2 Great Jones street, where they will be credited to their givers and their receipt acknowledged. All contributions of money should be directed to the Treasurer.

Among other excellent regulations adopted by the Committees are the following. Every article shall be sold at its correct value, where that is determinable. In all raffles the number of tickets sold shall not exceed the original valuation of the articles raffled for. No person shall be importuned to buy articles or tickets for raffles. In every department a cashier shall be appointed to receive money and make change. No punch shall be sold.

The Freedmen.

The first annual meeting of the United States Commission for the Relief of the National Freedmen, representing various Freedmen's Relief Associations in the Eastern, Middle and Western States, was held in Washington on the 5th of February, 1864. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Commission respectfully address themselves to the President of the United States in the expression of their earnest desire that measures be adopted to give to the slaves made free by the power of the Government, a legal and quiet possession of adequate land for their residence and support, as rapidly and as early as the responsibilities of the Government shall render possible.

Resolved, That we have learned with great pleasure that initiatory steps have been taken in Congress to establish a Bureau of Emancipation, or Freedmen's Affairs, and that it is desirable, in view of the urgent necessity for some immediate action on the part of the Government, that no time be lost in following up those steps by legislation.

Resolved, That this Commission express to the Executive and to Congress their deep conviction of the importance and necessity of the adoption of measures whereby all descendants of the Africans race in our country, enlisted in the Army and Navy, shall be placed in all respects, as regards pay, clothing and consideration, on the same footing with other soldiers and sailors in the service of the United States.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted by the Secretary to the President of the United States, and to the chairman of the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives.

FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW, President.

J. M. MCKIM, Secretary.

The Weekly Tribune.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1864.

Those of our subscribers who send money by express [illegible] pay the express charges [illegible]

The recent attempt of Gen. Butler to rescue the unhappy Union prisoners at Richmond—an account of which appeared exclusively in Tuesday morning's TRIBUNE—has created a good deal of excitement as well as admiration all over the country, notwithstanding its want of success. Had the attempt succeeded, the blessings of hundreds of thousands of the people would have been showered upon the head of the man who had conceived the expedition and under whose direction it had been executed; and although it failed, even the attempt deserves and will receive their gratitude. A fact in regard to it, however, still remains behind, which we regret to be obliged to state, and which fully justifies—if any justification were needed—Gen. Butler's attempt at rescue by force of arms. Negotiation at an exchange had failed, and information had reached him that within a week all the prisoners in Richmond were to be removed to Danville, Georgia. Once taken so far within the Rebel lines, and their condition will be more hopeless than ever. To rescue them while it was yet possible was Gen. Butler's purpose.

Peace resolutions, which *The Richmond Examiner* calls "extraordinary," were offered in the Rebel House of Representatives, Feb. 7. They propose that representatives of each Government shall meet at some place and time not specified, to consider:

"*First.* Whether they cannot agree upon the recognition of the Confederate States of America.

"*Second.* In the event of such recognition, whether they cannot agree upon the formation of a new Government, founded upon the equality and sovereignty of the States, but if this cannot be done, to consider:

"*Third.* Whether they cannot agree upon treaties, offensive, defensive, and commercial."

The noticeable feature of these is, that while they set out, in deference to the reiterated declaration of Rebel sentiment, with a proposition for the recognition of the Confederate States, they proceed to instruct Commissioners further to agree upon a reconstruction on the basis of equality and State rights. Those are the fundamental heresies of secession and will never be considered on our side, as the Rebels well know, but they can't be expected to back down all at once, and we regard this as a good beginning.

The mover of the resolutions is Mr. Wright of Georgia, once a Henry Clay Whig, then a Democrat, and never heartily a Rebel. The House seems to have thought them important enough to be considered in secret session.

"PEACE," NORTH AND SOUTH.

The most consistent, untiring, inveterate champion of a Copperhead "Peace" in the loyal States is the Hon. Ben. Wood of *The Daily News.* Fernando has attended Union War meetings and made Union War speeches; "brother Ben" never did. He was always for such a "Peace" as the Rebels should see fit to prescribe. He has been in Congress since the outbreak of the War, but never yet voted a man nor a dollar for its prosecution, and probably never will. But every "Peace" meeting and "Peace" movement of any kind in the loyal States has his hearty support; and his paper is ferocious against the "despotism" and "outrage" whereby they are sometimes interfered with.

But Ben. and his *News* have one rule for Unionists, and quite another for the Rebels, in whose interest and behalf the former publishes the latter. Thus, among the copious extracts from Rebel sheets—intended to sustain the drooping courage of their Northern friends—given in his last, he gleefully parades the following:

A PEACE MEETING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The New-York papers which copy so much about the Union feeling in North Carolina, will doubtless, be a little surprised at the following results of a "peace meeting" recently held in Greensborough, N. C. The account is from a correspondent of *The Raleigh (N. C.) Confederate*, dated the 1st inst.:

The announcement of a "Peace Meeting" to be held in our town [illegible] people with the gloomiest forebodings; but now [illegible] to breathe more freely. The meeting was a [illegible] patriotic little town—but it broke up in a row, and [illegible] all it was.

Crowds of people [illegible] from the country, "to see what would be done," [illegible] The three leaders, H. P. H., H. F. C., and J. L. [illegible] a meeting. The Court-House bell several times [illegible] peals, and finally at 1½ o'clock [illegible] one of the leaders trying to speak. But the [illegible] hissed, groaned, and applauded, in such a manner that every effort to be heard or to organize was utterly in vain. The resolutions could not be read. The crowd cast all kinds of abusive and ridiculous epithets [illegible] of the speakers supremely ludicrous. *Excessively rotten eggs were [illegible]* deluged; and the leaders gave up in despair, and rushed out of the Court House at 1 o'clock, the meeting having lasted only half an hour.

Late in the day, one of the leaders was assaulted on the street by a soldier, who asked "who went out of the Union" and, upon his replying to the [illegible], gave him a good thrashing, and it [illegible] have knocked all the treason out of him; but [illegible] and he was carried off by a negro [illegible].

Regret is expressed by many that the others did not get a thrashing, too, but they were [illegible] *enough to keep out of the way.*

The whole town seems to feel indignant at their course, and would like to see them suffer their attempts to get up a "traitor's meeting." A fourth leader had the [illegible] to leave town early on Saturday morning, no doubt having some important business [illegible] which demanded his attention, but the [illegible] during the entire period of the [illegible] that "he who fights and runs away may live to fight another day."

Greensborough—where this meeting was held—is the capital of staunch old Guilford—about the only County in North Carolina that gave a majority for Clay over Jackson in 1832—and which gave Harrison 1,880 over Van Buren in 1840, and Clay 1,619 over Polk in 1844—more than four to one. It gave similar majorities for Taylor, Scott, Fillmore and Bell. It is the home of most of the Quakers in North Carolina—has but 3,625 slaves out of a population of 20,056—and never saw the day when it was not thoroughly loyal to the Union. Two-thirds of its voters would joyfully vote to hang Jeff. Davis to-morrow, though many of them are opposed to capital punishment. Only take off the pressure exerted by Rebel terrorism, through the armies which on either side are interposed between it and those of the Union, and Guilford could not be kept quiet under Rebel rule for a day.

Well: the people of Guilford saw fit to hold a "Peace Meeting;" and the Rebel rowdies managed, by hisses, howls, threats and rotten eggs, to break it up. Of course, the Unionists, not being armed, and having Jeff.'s minions all about them, were not ready for war to the knife; so they had to submit. And this amazingly tickles *The Raleigh Confederate*, and is eagerly, joyously transferred to its compatriot, *The New-York Daily News.* "Peace Meetings" in the *loyal* States are exactly to *The News's* taste; but in the Rebel—that's quite another matter.

MEXICO.

The news which we have this morning from Mexico via Havana is of the highest importance. If true—and we see no reason to doubt its correctness—it indicates the downfall of the Mexican Republic and the successful establishment of a monarchy on our southern border.

The least important portion of the news is the reported adhesion of a number of towns and villages to the Empire. Those towns and villages are all within the lines of the French; they have had since their occupation by the French troops and their Mexican allies municipal authorities consisting of fanatical partisans of the Empire. But the unobstructed progress of the French, the capture of Uraga, and the despair and resignation of President Juarez, leave no doubt that the hour of agony has arrived for the republic. Ortega, who succeeds Juarez as President, and Doblado, still hold out; but for the present, we see no ray of hope for the Mexican Republic. Unless events extraordinary and entirely unforeseen occur, and put to the long series of misfortunes a sudden stop, the Mexicans must soon give up the unequal struggle. Mexico is, *de facto*, an empire, and soon, as recent advices from Europe indicate, the Emperor—we cannot say the Emperor elect—who has been thrust upon the nation by Foreign bayonets, will arrive upon this continent and reëstablish the throne of the Montezumas.

It is useless to venture any predictions as to the future. No one, either here or in Europe, expects that the National party of Mexico will refrain from attempts to reconquer the independence of the country and to reëstablish its republican institutions. The reign of Emperor Maximilian is not likely to be a calm one.

There is news of a very contradictory character from San Francisco. According to it, the National party has obtained several important triumphs. The City of San Luis de Potosi has been recaptured, the garrison taken prisoners. Uraga was advancing at the head of 9,000 men against Guadalajara. This news is of not so late a date as that received via Havana, and is contradicted by it in all its particulars. If there is any truth at all in this report, the slight successes of the Mexicans have been followed by serious and decisive disasters.

MR. SUMNER'S WAY.

Hon. Charles Sumner on Monday submitted to the Senate a series of propositions regarding the powers and duties of the National Government as affected by and related to the Slaveholders' Rebellion, which, whether he assent to their leading propositions or not, every thoughtful reader must pronounce in scope and diction worthy of the subject. We will not be committed to Mr. Sumner's or any other dogmas on this subject; we, as a rule, dislike the blending in one proposition of what is to be done with the reasons for doing it (after the manner of what Col. Benton termed Mr. Douglas's 'stamp speech in the belly' of his Nebraska bill;) yet we think every champion of Slavery, Nullification, Secession, 'No Coercion,' "the Resolutions of '98,' 'the Union as it was,' &c., &c., will agree with us that Mr. Sumner meets them fairly and frankly, on grounds of clearly enunciated principle, and compels them to recognize him as an earnest, manful, fearless antagonist—a 'foeman worthy of their steel.' Neither implicitly accepting nor by any means rejecting them, we yet thank their author for having so perspicuously and forcibly set forth that view of our political system which its upholders commend as 'National' and its foes stigmatize as 'consolidation.'

We profoundly appreciate and admire Mr. Sumner's intense and single-eyed devotion to the cause of Universal Freedom. His future biographer will justly claim for him the honor of having, through a public career neither brief nor undistinguished, kept steadily, absorbingly, exclusively in view the deliverance of his country from the curse of Slavery and the domination of the Slave Power. Others have loved Liberty as truly as he; none other in the higher walks of public life has known no passion, no purpose, but that of freeing the enslaved. No lure of ambition, no blandishments of society, no tempting savor of jobbery, has ever sufficed to swerve him one hair from what—to him, at least—is the path of sovereign duty.

But this very directness and invincible singleness of purpose may impel to practical mistakes. We think it has done so in his case. Mr. Sumner errs, not in hating Slavery too much or too exclusively, but in evincing that hate through too many distinct propositions. This is a waste of power—a misuse of precious strength. Mr. Sumner, for example, on the very day on which he introduced seven resolves striking deliberately and radically at the basis of American Slavery, presents memorials praying that the Right of Suffrage may be extended to persons of African lineage, and introduces a bill to repeal the Fugitive Slave Law, and another to enable Blacks to testify in Federal Courts the same as Whites.

Now, we approve every one of the objects here aimed at. We ask no other civil rights for ourselves and our race than we are ready and anxious to concede to every portion of the human family. We hope to see the day when all men shall vote who are not disqualified by idiocy, insanity, ignorance, or crime—when no human being will be hunted in this land of liberty as a fugitive from Slavery—and when every one's testimony will be taken when offered, and the jury instructed to weigh it and take it for whatever it may be worth. We have known Whites whose oath was not worth a potato, and Blacks whose word was good for a thousand dollars—their color in either case having no influence on their credibility. Twelve upright, intelligent men in a jury-box may safely be trusted with any testimony that parties litigant may offer.

But Mr. Sumner grievously errs in thus pecking at the twigs and leaves of the Upas, which he is at the same time trying to uproot. He incurs the danger of repelling and alienating good men by bringing forward so many separate measures relating to Slavery. The Irish witness, who undertook to give fourteen reasons for his father's disobedience to the summons of the Court, having begun—

'1. Because he is dead, and can't come,'

was very properly stopped by the judge with an intimation that the remaining thirteen were superfluous, and might be withheld. And, by the same rule, Mr. Sumner, having submitted to Congress one proposition fatal to American Slavery (and better in seven lines than in seven elaborate resolves), should not only abstain, but urge others to abstain, from introducing a multiplicity of propositions touching the same general subject, but either superfluous or of quite subordinate and immaterial consequence. There is danger in overdosing; and, so that the main point be secured, others can well afford to wait a little.

THE NEW WESTERN CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Sherman's expedition is now so far advanced that the Western papers seem to think no harm will come from publishing pretty full details of its composition, and even hints as to its destination. A heavy cavalry force is already sweeping through Central Mississippi. Infantry from various points have gathered in great numbers at Vicksburg, the army corps which form its nucleus having been reënforced by the garrisons of all posts along the river, the holding of which is not a military necessity. Under command of Gen. McPherson they are moving eastward upon Jackson. A third column of considerable strength is marching from Natchez. The three are expected to unite at some point not yet indicated, under Gen. Sherman's command, and together to enter upon a campaign in the heart of the enemy's country.

The advance of this formidable force may furnish a clue to the sudden retreat of Johnston from Dalton. He held a position near that place, of great strength to resist an attack in front, but it seems to be the characteristic of the campaigns through this vast territory that no position is defensible against a movement in flank. If Gen. Sherman starts his columns from Vicksburg, five hundred miles marching due East, Johnston is instantly sensible that they may reach a point in Alabama which threatens his hold upon Northern Georgia. They may at all events attack a point which the Rebels cannot afford to surrender without a struggle. Hence, on either theory, Johnston has no choice but to abandon Dalton, and fall back to cover Montgomery or Selma.

The distances which Gen. Sherman, supposing him to contemplate such a movement, has to traverse, are enormous. Seldom has an army penetrated a country so barren of resources and so far removed from supplies. It is only the railway and river transportation which makes the effort in any degree feasible. Gen. Sherman may reconstruct, as he advances, the railway from Vicksburg to Jackson, and from Jackson to Meridian, and if he is able to maintain such a line and to fortify the latter point as a secondary base, he may pursue his campaign thence in whatever direction he chooses. What the direction is to be, everybody is at liberty to settle for themselves. It is sufficient to say to-day that the campaign is of vast importance not only in itself, but in relation to the other movements which under the guidance of Gen. Grant the Spring is to witness. There need no longer be any apprehension, if any has been felt, that the war on our part is to be waged as a defensive struggle. Armies in motion so early as this do not mean to halt till they have fought and won decisive battles. Gen. Sherman has a taste for active work, is competent to command an independent column, and may be relied on for an energetic campaign. The wishes of the country go with him on his perilous way.

KENTUCKY'S ATTITUDE.

The effort of the Pro-Slavery fossils to elect James Guthrie—naturally an able and strong man—to the U. S. Senate, seems doomed to signal failure. The election is likely to go over—which is the best possible result. The best that could be done at this session would be the choice of Gov. Bramlette, who is not obstinately impervious to new truths; but next Winter, if the march of improvement shall meantime be half so rapid in Kentucky as it is in other Border States, we may be enabled to chronicle the election of Rev. R. J. Breckinridge or Gen. Rousseau. Kentucky, hoodwinked by two or three journals that are powerful because utterly without counterpoise, moves slowly; but she *does* move nevertheless, and will, with each revolving month, be wiser and more enlightened as to the curse that has doomed her to be so far outstripped in population and wealth by her younger and less favored sister Ohio.

—Gov. Bramlette recently issued a Proclamation formally warning off all recruiters of free negroes within his State. He says Kentucky will fully and promptly meet every requisition for soldiers from her Whites alone. This is her right, so far as other States are affected; but see how it bears on her own population: Here are Bourbon, Clarke, Christian, Fayette, Henderson, Jessamine, Logan, Nelson, Scott, Shelby, Todd, Trigg, Woodford, and some other Counties, with more than a third of their population held as slaves; while Boyd, Breathitt, Clay, Clinton, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Morgan, Perry, Whitley, &c., have not one slave to thirty Whites. Now, if the great slaveholding Counties would supply *their* full share of the soldiers required, it would be well; but they will do nothing of the sort. A large share of the slaveholders' sons are (or have been) in the Rebel ranks; while the Poor Whites in the Mountain and other non-slaveholding Counties will be required to serve instead of the negroes whom Gov. Bramlette refuses to have enlisted. We don't consider this the fair thing; and the free white laborers of Kentucky would not, if the fact were permitted to reach them.

KANSAS.—In the Legislature, a Soldiers' Suffrage bill has been reported by the Committee on Elections, providing for elections among the citizens of the State absent therefrom by reason of being engaged in suppression of the Rebellion at this time. The bill seems to be well drawn for the object sought.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. [illegible]

THE CONFEDERATE RAMS IN ENGLAND

Some months ago we stated, on the authority of an officer attached to the United States steamship Tuscarora, now in European waters, that Mr. Laird was solicited to sell his rams to the British Government. The story has been repeated since, with the assertion that the proposition was refused. A naval officer, however, has received a letter from a European correspondent stating that the English Government and Mr. Laird differ only about the price of the vessels, and that if the Government give the figure stated by him they can have the craft, notwithstanding the statements to the contrary recently published by the British newspapers.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 3, 1864.

SURVEYS IN COLORADO.

Returns have been received from the Surveyor-General of Colorado, dated Jan. 13, 1864, showing the subdivisional surveys of Townships Nos. 16 and 17, south of Range No. 65, west of the 6th p. m. meridian, which townships are traversed by the Fontaine Qui Bout River.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 5, 1864.

THE COLOR DISTINCTION.

As has been before stated in THE TRIBUNE, colored people have been compelled to ride in cattle cars on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The attention of the War Department having been called to this abuse, orders have been issued that hereafter on all Government roads or trains there shall be no distinction of color.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 8, 1864.

STRENGTH OF THE REBEL ARMIES.

Accounts from the South state that the Rebel armies embrace to-day more men than at any moment since the commencement of the war, the conscription having been ruthlessly enforced in all classes liable to a notion.

Unless our armies are strongly reënforced before next Spring, the military authorities here believe that much of the advantages we have gained within the last twelve months must inevitably be lost by the evacuation of territories which we will not have sufficient troops to garrison.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

The matter of exchanging prisoners still hangs by the eyelids, but indications increase that the pressure of powerful Southern families may compel the Rebel Government to waive their objections to the negotiations of Gen. Butler. This is, however, not so certain as the friends of our prisoners could wish.

FROM GRANT'S DEPARTMENT.

An officer just in from Gen. Grant's headquarters states that all through the country to the rear of the Union lines a Union officer, in his uniform, can ride unmolested to any portions of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama, halting at farmhouses along the road for such refreshments and shelter as he may desire.

The country to the rear of our lines is thoroughly pacified, and it now only requires some Military Governor to do for these States what General Butler did for Louisiana. It is believed that the transfer of General Butler to the Military Governorship of the States embraced within General Grant's command would be most acceptable to the latter officer.

A CARELESS GENERAL.

Gen. Scammon, who was recently captured, with his whole staff and guard asleep in canal-boats, tied to the bank, in Western Virginia, has several times previously been reported for misconduct and incapacity, to the War Department, and his removal was thereupon urged by the military authorities, but the political influence of Western Virginia has heretofore had the power to retain him.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 8, 1864.

CORRESPONDENCE ABOUT EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

It appears from official documents that the commission of Gen. Hitchcock of Dec. 16 authorized him to confer with Gen. Butler, and designated him as an agent to procure the exchange of soldiers and officers upon terms not conflicting with the position of the Department relative to colored soldiers, nor surrendering men without just equivalent, man for man, officer for officer. Subsequently, he was directed to exchange first those who had been longest confined, and to waive for the time the consideration of the question of parole and excess of Rebel prisoners in our hands. He was allowed, also, to exchange colored men in civil employment for men in civil employment captured by our forces.

On the 25th of December Gen. Butler sent forward by Assistant Commissioner Mulford, 502 prisoners from Point Lookout, asking in exchange for them a similar number, and leaving in abeyance all existing differences, with assurances that their prisoners in our hands were well cared for, and suggestions looking to the immediate exchange of convalescent or disabled prisoners. In communications of the same date he asks for the exchange of Alfred F. Beagle of the Sanitary Commission, confined in Castle Thunder, the whereabout and condition of Lieut. F. H. Mason and private John Wollam of Ohio regiments, and inquires into the proposition covering the cases of the officers and crews of the steamers Emily and Arrow, captured by the Rebels last May.

Commissioner Ould reiterates in a note to Maj. Mulford a willingness to exchange all prisoners, the excess on either side to be on parole. He says: "This is the provision of the cartel, and we can accept nothing less. Unless this is the distinct understanding, no equivalent will be delivered to you for any Confederate officers and soldiers whom you may hereafter bring to City Point. In the hope that such is the understanding, I have directed that a greater number than the total of your delivery shall be sent to you." In another communication Gen. Hitchcock is reminded that by the Presidential Proclamation Gen. Butler is under the ban of outlawry, and that while his Government cannot prescribe what agents the United States shall employ, self-respect requires that the Confederate Government refuse to treat with a person so obnoxious, and that Gen. Butler's agency cannot, therefore, be recognized, or his person protected by a flag of truce.

Gen. Butler returned the note and said in reply, "No right of declaration of outlawry by those authorities of any officer or soldier of the United States can be admitted, or for a moment regarded by the Government of the United States, as it certainly will not be by the persons upon whom such intimidation is attempted." He informs Robert Ould that unless his flag of truce is respected all further communication by flag of truce between those authorities and ours must cease. On the 12th of January Gen. Butler writes again, asking for an exchange of the lists of prisoners and of deaths, and proposing the making up of monthly lists.

THE REBEL COMMISSIONER ON EXCHANGE.

Commissioner Ould declares exchanged all prisoners heretofore held by the Union authorities, whether officers, soldiers, or civilians, received at City Point before Jan. 1, and all officers and men of the Vicksburg capture who reported for duty at Enterprise, Miss., prior to Nov. 14, 1863. Also, all officers and men of the Vicksburg capture belonging to the 1st Tennessee Artillery.

THE ENROLLMENT BILL.

In the House to-day an amendment to the Senate Enrollment bill was adopted as a substitute for one of the original sections, which further provides that any person drafted into the military service may, before the time fixed for his appearance at the draft rendezvous, furnish an acceptable substitute, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War. If such substitute is not liable to draft the person furnishing him shall be exempt from draft during the time for which such substitute is not liable to draft, not exceeding the term for which he was drafted; and if such substitute is liable to draft, the name of the person furnishing him shall be liable to draft in filling future quotas.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1864.

ANTICIPATED ATTACK ON FAIRFAX STATION.

A report of a Rebel force about to attack Fairfax Station reached that place on the 8th, and troops were sent out to look for the enemy. The result has not been announced.

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BANKS.

A Committee of financial men from New-York have submitted to Secretary Chase a plan for harmonizing the differences between the old New-York banks and the new National banks. It is understood that a number of the old banks are desirous of reorganizing as National banks.

THE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL ACT.

In the Senate to-day the bill establishing the office of Lieutenant-General was passed without the House clause recommending Gen. Grant for the position.

THE LOUISIANA ELECTION CASE.

The House to-day, by a vote of 87 to 14, decided in favor of the report of the Committee of Elections, and against Mr. Field's right to a seat in the House, as Representative from Louisiana.

ANOTHER PEACE HUMBUG BY FERNANDO WOOD.

Another peace proposition by Fernando Wood, introduced in the course of the debate on the Enrollment bill, received its quietus by a vote of 23 to 103. Mr. Cox of Ohio and a number of the opposition voted against it.

LAND SURVEYS IN WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Returns dated Dec. 24, 1863, have been received from the Surveyor-General of Washington Territory at Olympia, showing the survey of township twelve north, ranges 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43; township eleven north, ranges 39, 40, 41, 42, and township ten north, of ranges 39 and 40 east of the Willamette Meridian.

LAND SURVEYS IN OREGON.

Returns approved as late as Dec. 31, 1863, have been received from the Oregon Surveyor-General at Oregon City, showing the surveys in township 2 south of range 3 west, and township 7 south, range 51 west, Willamette Meridian, the greater portion of such townships being covered by actual settlement under the old donation law making grants to settlers in Oregon.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1864.

STRONG PLEA IN BEHALF OF LOUISIANA VOLUNTEERS.

Information has been received from the Connecticut agent at New-Orleans, that the Connecticut troops who are there in service, and whose regiments have been refilled by the enlistment of loyal Louisianians, are unwilling to re-enlist as veterans unless the same privileges can be accorded to their Southern brethren who, having fought by their side, are regarded as brothers in arms. Gov. Buckingham, who is now here, has represented these facts to the War Department, and the Secretary has the matter under favorable consideration.

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ENROLLMENT BILL.

It is understood that Gen. Schenck, Chairman of the Military Committee, has in preparation a substitute for the Enrollment bill now under discussion, embodying all the vital points, and leaving out the irrelevant amendments which have been adopted, and which he will offer upon the conclusion of the discussion in Committee of the Whole.

THE REPORTED IMPRISONMENT OF MR. HENDERSON.

The statement that Mr. Henderson, recently Warrant Clerk in the Treasury Department, is in the Old Capitol, is incorrect. He is in town, and under the surveillance of Government officers.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1864.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE BILL AS PASSED.

The House bill to increase the internal revenue, as it passed the Senate to-day, provides that after its passage, in lieu of the duty provided for in the act of July 1, 1862, and in addition to the duties payable for licenses, there shall be paid on all spirits that may be distilled and sold, or distilled and removed, for consumption or sale, previous to July 1, 1864, of first proof, a duty of 60 cents per gallon, and upon all liquors that may be distilled after the passage of this act, and sold, or removed for consumption or sale, on and after the 1st of July next, and previous to July next, 70 cents per gallon; and on all liquors that may be distilled after the passage of this act and sold, or removed for consumption or sale, on and after the 1st of January next, 80 cents per gallon.

In addition to the duty heretofore imposed by law, there is to be paid on spirits distilled from grain or other materials, whether of American or foreign production, imported from foreign countries previous to the 1st of July next, of first proof, a duty of 40 cents per gallon, and on all such spirits imported from foreign countries on and after the 1st of January next a duty of 50 cents, and on all such spirits imported from foreign countries on and after the 1st of January next 60 cents per gallon. The Senate struck out the House provision taxing spirits on hand for sale, and also the clause proposing an addition of 20 per cent per gallon on adulterated spirits sold as brandy, wine, &c. The Senate also rejected the proviso increasing the duty on cotton to two cents.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1864.

SPECULATING IN GOLD.

Senator Sherman's bill, introduced to-day, prohibiting speculative transactions in gold, makes all time sales of specie or foreign exchange null and void, and partial payments thereupon reclaimable by suit.

THE SLAVERY PROTECTION RESOLUTION.

The joint resolution which Senator Anthony proposes to repeal, and which is now before the Judiciary Committee, is as follows:

ARTICLE 13. No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give Congress the power to abolish or interfere with, in any State, the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said States.

This resolution was approved March 2, 1861, and submitted to the Legislatures of the several States for their ratification, the assent of three-fourths of them being necessary to make it a part of the Constitution. But owing to the breaking out of the Rebellion, there was no general action of the Legislatures upon the subject. The resolution was one of the compromises proposed by the House Select Committee.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1864.

MILITARY NOMINATIONS.

Another list of nominations, about 300, were transmitted to the Senate to-day by the President. They embrace Quartermasters, Commissaries, Paymasters and Chaplains. There are now about 1,200 names before the Senate for confirmation.

UNEMPLOYED MILITARY OFFICERS.

The House Committee on Military Affairs have prepared a bill setting out with the declaration that it appears that many general officers are, and have been, either entirely unemployed, or not on duty correspondingly with their rank, thus holding commissions and drawing pay without service, and standing in the way of the promotion of active officers, and provides that all Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals, who, on the 15th of March next, shall not be in the performance of service, and for three months continuously next prior to that date shall be dropped from the roll of the army, and all pay shall cease, and the vacancies filled by appointment or promotion.

But this is not to affect officers absent from wounds or in consequence of being prisoners of war or on parole. Any Major or Brigadier-General appointed under the act of 1861, so dropped from the rolls, shall not be discharged, but remitted to his former position as a staff or line officer of the Regular Army.

IDENTIFICATION OF CAPTURED BLOCKADE RUNNERS.

It appears from official statements that the Wild Darrell, which was run ashore and captured at New Top-sail Inlet recently, was a paddle-wheel steamer, launched in September, 1863, at Liverpool, by Jones, Quiggin & Co., 215 feet long, 20 feet broad, and 11 feet deep. She is built of steel, and is a similar ship to the Banshee, captured not long ago. She cleared from Liverpool on the 17th of November, was very swift, and built especially to run the blockade.

The Presto, which was run ashore on Ludwam's Island, near Charleston, was built by a Stephens & Son on the Clyde, for a blockade runner. Speed was her first requisite, and it is believed she had no rival afloat; of neat length, low, black, rakish appearance, paddle-wheel steamer, very sharp forward, and has a turtle-back deck to break the seas, about 400 tons burden. She sailed from Glasgow, Oct. 20, 1863, loaded with stores on Rebel account. She attained a speed of eighteen miles in her trial trip.

THE EXAMINATION OF PERSONS UNFIT FOR SERVICE.

The following was issued to-day:

WAR DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1864.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 66—[illegible] 10th New-York Artillery.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, A. A. G.

Official: R. WILLIAMS, A. A. G.

A precisely similar order has been issued in the case of First Lieut. Robert M. Smith, 11th U. S. Infantry.

The pay of all regimental officers connected with the 10th New-York Heavy Artillery has been stopped until further orders, awaiting the explanation of the matter of improper enlistments into the regiment of boys under 18, men over 45, and others physically disqualified from the military service.

DESTRUCTION OF THE PRESIDENT'S STABLE.

The President's stable, located between the Treasury Department and the Executive Mansion, was to-night destroyed by fire. The carriages were saved, but six horses perished in the flames.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS ...First Session.

SENATE, Feb. 4.—After petitions and resolutions, the joint resolution equalizing the pay of soldiers in the United States Army was taken up. Mr. Wilson explained at length the grievances suffered by the colored troops. Messrs. Fessenden and Grimes opposed any retrospective legislation in behalf of the colored troops. Mr. Conness introduced an amendment placing the colored troops on a similar footing with the white troops after the passage of this act. After a lengthy discussion, the subject was passed over, and the Revenue bill, with the Senate's amendments, came up. Mr. Hendricks moved an amendment, imposing 40 cents per gallon instead of 70 cents on liquors distilled and sold, or removed for consumption or sale after July 1, 1864, and 40 cents instead of 80 cents after Jan. 1, 1865. Messrs. Hendricks, Fessenden, Powell, Howe, Johnson, Grimes, and Doolittle engaged in the debate, and then Mr. Hendricks's motion was rejected. A motion to tax liquors on hand prior to 1st of July 30 cents per gallon, was lost—11 Yeas, 26 Nays. The bill, as amended by the Finance Committee, was then passed. After Executive session, the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.—The Fortifications' Appropriation bill was reported. The Territories' Committee were directed to inquire into the propriety of preventing the wanton destruction of buffalo. A bill was reported providing for ascertaining and adjusting claims for damages sustained during the war by military authority. Mr. Kasson introduced a bill relating to the coinage of cotton and the disposition thereof. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means. The Printing Committee reported in favor of printing 10,000 copies of the foreign correspondence for the use of the State Department. Adopted—118 Yeas, 17 Nays. The House resumed the consideration of the amendatory Confiscation bill. Mr. Woodbridge argued in favor of restoring the property of Rebels, and confiscating their property. Mr. Cox moved to lay the resolution on the table. Motion disagreed to by 71 to 81. Mr. Kernan made a speech opposing the passage of the resolution and against the Confiscation act. Mr. Wilson advocated Confiscation. The House did not vote on the bill the Opposition having resorted to vexatious and useless motions to stave off action. Adjourned.

HOUSE, Feb. 5.—A motion to adjourn over to Monday was lost. The business in order was the amendments to the Confiscation act. Mr. Holman moved to lay the bill on the table, lost, 71 to 80. Mr. Cox moved to adjourn, lost, 57 to 84. It was finally arranged that Mr. Blair of Missouri, Mr. Smith of Kentucky, and Mr. Pruyn of New-York should speak, and the vote should then be taken. Mr. Blair opposed the amendment and the policy of the President on the matter, he wished the loyal Border States compensated for their slaves. Mr. Smith favored the amendment, and made a strong speech in favor of the extremest severity to crush the Rebellion. Mr. Pruyn made a mild Democratic speech without particular point. The resolution was then passed, Yeas 82, Nays 74. All the Yeas are straight Unionists, of the Nays, 61 are Northern Democrats, and 13 are Border State men of various stripes. The joint resolution as passed, amends the joint resolution of July 17, 1862, by making it read that no punishment or proceeding under it shall be so construed as to work a forfeiture of the estate of the offender contrary to the Constitution of the United States. *Provided*, that no other public warning or proclamation under the Act of July 17, 1862, chapter 95, section 6, is or shall be required than the Proclamation of the President made and published by him on the 25th of July, 1862, which Proclamation, he made, shall be received and held sufficient in all cases now pending or which may hereafter arise under said act. The House adjourned until Monday.

SENATE, Feb. 8.—Petitions were presented for giving the elective franchise to colored men. The credentials of Senator Grimes of Iowa (re-elected) were presented. Petition was made for compensation for losses by the invasion in Kentucky; also a resolution for similar reparation in Kansas. A bill to repeal all Fugitive Slave laws was offered and sent to the Committee on Freedom and Slavery. A bill was referred to enable Nevada to form a State Government. A joint resolution was offered and referred to repeal the joint resolution to amend the Constitution, approved March 2, 1861. Mr. Anthony earnestly advocated the repeal. Mr. Saulsbury ridiculed the movement. A bill defining the duties of chaplains was referred; also, resolutions defining the powers of the Government. The President sent in the correspondence with Rebel authorities about exchanging prisoners. The bill to promote Enlistments was taken up, and Mr. Carlile made a long speech on the matter of making free the immediate relations of slave recruits.

Mr. SUMNER (Un., Mass.) introduced a series of seven resolutions defining the powers of the National Government which asserts that they are an organization of Slavery; that, as they are identical, it is the duty of the nation to crush them together, that in the war, the National Government has and may use both the "rights of sovereignty" and the "rights of war;" that reconstruction must proceed under the direct control of Congress; that our National debt is the consequence of Slavery, and must be managed by the Federal Government; that no Rebel State should be permitted to resume its functions without assurance that all good citizens shall be safe in it; that the Central Government ought to abolish Slavery even in loyal States; and that the Constitution ought to be amended so as to prohibit Slavery.

HOUSE.—A bill was referred establishing Heads of Departments to seats within the hall of the House. A bill to repeal the Fugitive Slave Law was referred; also, a bill to create the Department of Industry, its Secretary to be a Cabinet officer, and the Department to embrace Agriculture, Freedmen's Affairs, Mines and Minerals, Emigration. A bill was offered [illegible] regulating the transmission of goods to and from Canada in original packages. Compensation was asked for Indian depredations in Utah. The Committee on Elections reported that neither Mr. Kitchen nor Mr. McKenzie (of Virginia) is entitled to membership to the House. (Laid over.) A bill for the improvement of Chicago harbor was referred. Resolutions were laid over proposing thanks to loyal women for their efforts in support of the Sanitary Commission and kindred charities. Thanks were voted to Gen. W. T. Sherman, his officers and men. Resolutions by Mr. Blair of W. Va., deprecating the war and repudiating all attempts at conciliation until after Southern submission, were laid over; also, resolutions that it is the duty of the Government to use every means to relieve loyal men in the South from the oppression of Davis's tyranny. The Enrollment bill was up in Committee, and a resolution to hold able-bodied citizens subject to draft was adopted, but afterward repealed. Adjourned.

SENATE, Feb. 9.—Mr. Sumner presented petitions of

21,193 women of New-York, 13,109 of Illinois, and 12,641 of Massachusetts and an equal number of men, praying for the entire abolishment of Slavery. The consideration of the petitions caused a debate between Messrs. Salisbury, Sumner, Wilson, Pomeroy, Johnson and Cowan, in the course of which the entire policy of Senator on the Crittenden compromise was discussed at length. The Resolutions died on his own motion.

Mr. Howe introduced a bill to amend the Judiciary Act, with the views making each other Circuit in Court, and the issues of Gen. Grant circuits out. Mr. Howe reintroduced a bill, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee, providing appointment of Consuls to foreign exchange, and for other purposes. Mr. Powell introduced a bill, which was referred, to amend and provide a new mode of electing the President and Vice-President. It is a characteristic feature of the proposed bill to vest congress or all qualified voters in the United States. A bill to make the Counties of Suffolk and Hudson in New-York two Districts in New-York was referred. Also, a bill to divide the District of Columbia. The Senate adjourned till Monday.

In the House, a bill was introduced to amend the Judiciary Act, which was referred.

Mr. Morrill introduced a bill to amend the Act of July 1st, 1862, to provide for the endowment of Colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts, which was referred.

Mr. Stevens reported from the Committee of Ways and Means a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Act, which was referred to the Committee of the Whole

The Gospel in Egypt.

From Our Special Correspondent.

DONGOLA, Ill., Jan. 20, 1864.

Not long since I received a call from a popular preacher. During the week he works at wagons. When he prepares his sermons I do not know. He always has large congregations. I have always taken him to be a harmless, inoffensive man. I have felt a little bitter toward him for some time, because, in fitting a couple of wagon wheels for me, he used such poor timber, which was rails, and made such loose joints that, under a moderate load, one wheel broke down, and the other is likely to give away at any time. However, the ten dollars I paid him must be considered so much in support of the Gospel, though most of it was in coffee.

It was Saturday afternoon, and I saw, at a glance, that it was a particular visit, for the bosom and collar of his shirt had more bluing in them than for every-day wear. It is likely that he called because I went to hear him preach the previous Sunday. On that occasion his text was from 2d Samuel, 22d chap., 34th verse: "He maketh my feet like hind's feet, and setteth me on high places." As he could not read very well, he had mistaken "hinds" for "hens," and, upon this reading, he built his discourse, going on to show that as the feet of hens are made to hold fast to a stick or to the branch of a tree, they sleep securely, while without such feet they would fall off. So it was in Christian life; the feet were faith, the branch is the promises which are taken hold of, and by this means the Christian is, according to the word, "set up in high places;" and though the rain may fall, and the wind blow, he is safe. For more than half an hour he enlarged on the text to his audience, while his hearers wondered at his ability to explain the Scriptures. For some weeks before I had been sick; in fact, had the ague, and had gone to meeting hoping to feel better, but the seats were so hard, and the end of one of the legs came up through the seat where I had to set, that my back almost gave out, and would have wholly done so had I not been interested in the sermon.

We soon became sociable. In speaking of some deserters, who had gone to Canada, ...

[illegible]

Herbert Spencer and Auguste Comte.

[illegible]

GRAPE GROWING AND WINE MAKING.—II.

From Our Special Correspondent.

DONGOLA, Ill., Dec. 12, 1863.

[illegible]

Talk About Fruit.

[illegible]

MARRIED.

[illegible]

DIED.

[illegible]

INTERESTING TO FARMERS.

American Institute Farmers' Club.

Tuesday, January 26, was one of the most lovely days of this lovely Winter. It was as bright and almost as warm as April, and the people who usually attend the meetings of this Club, men and women, were out in goodly numbers. There was no lack of opportunity to listen to the talking members—we are sorry to say that much of the talk was mere words—words that convey no ideas. We give the little that is worth reporting:

Corn-stalk Cutters.—JOHN ATKINSON, Bethany, Brooke Co., W. Va., wants Mr. Carpenter "to say where the corrugated rollers with which he chaffs his cut-corn fodder, are to be had;" to which Mr. Carpenter answers, in any of the agricultural warehouses of this city, and Mr. Robinson adds, and probably in almost any other city, but unless the owners choose to make it known by advertising, he does not choose to advertise for them.

Improved Grain Drills.—JAS. GREEN, writes from Kennett Square, Pa., that he has made an improvement in grain drills, and "that he is too poor to advertise it." There have been a great many poor mechanics made rich by advertising. If he has made a real improvement, and will take a sensible course to make it known, we will guarantee that he will not always write himself down "a poor mechanic."

Something Cottony.—S. V. R. JOHNSON sends "something cottony" from Canandaigua, New-York, which grows wild in that region. There let it grow. It is of no use as a fibrous plant.

The Meat Rations of the People of New-York.—T. C. PETERS, Darien, New-York, says:

"A close study of the tables of receipts of butchers' animals in New-York, and several years' observation, satisfy me that the annual consumption of butchers' meat is a very good criterion for judging of the density of population around the markets thus supplied.

"You make the whole quantity of meat supplied for the year 1863 as equal to 379,121,6[illegible]7 lb., but you also state that large numbers of carcasses are received which do not find their way into city reports. I assume the quantity thus received to be about 20,000,000 lb., making the aggregate equal to 400,000,000 lb. This will give a daily consumption of 1,095,[illegible] lb.

"I am satisfied by examination of the statistics of housekeeping of many city families, that the average daily consumption of fresh meat is equal to half a pound a person, or three pounds to a family. This would be a small allowance, but for the large amount of fish, poultry and game also consumed.

"Allowing, then, half a pound of meat to a person, and your markets issue a meat ration to 2,191,726 persons daily.

"But you will say the census shows no such number of people, and therefore the census gives a very imperfect idea of the vast congregation that eat and sleep within ten miles of your City Hall.

"Outside of that circle 200,000 will cover the number of people who draw their daily supply from the city markets.

"This leaves 2,000,000 as the number of people resident within the limits of the city markets. The quantity taken for the army, for the navy, for the commercial marine, I assume as equal to the supply of 100,000 persons daily, and it will not exceed that. I will also allow that the transient people fed daily are equal to 200,000 men—and there is still a population in New-York and Brooklyn, and their immediate dependencies, of about 700,000 beyond the census returns of 18[illegible].

"I have no doubt you are feeding a resident population from your markets of over a million and a half of people."

[illegible] Itch in Cattle.—W. L. KOONS, Rochester, Fulton County, Ind., says: "The wood tick prevails here now. Three years ago one of my neighbors lost three valuable cows by it. Can the Club answer what is the cause of the disease, and what the cure?" There was considerable talk upon this question, but no idea of any importance to the writer or others who suffer from the same cause.

How Late Should Corn be Plowed?—Mr. KOONS also asks the following question: How late in the season or at what stage or period in the growth of corn as the latest would you recommend the plowing of it?

WM. S. CARPENTER advocated plowing it as late as he could without danger of breaking it down. He works it up to the time of tasseling and thinks the crop very much improved by that course.

SOLON ROBINSON would use a turning plow but very little in corn. He would at first, and up to the time it is large enough for second hoeing, use Mapes's subsoil lifter, and the horse-hoe. After the corn is large enough to fill the ground with roots, he would not use any plow that would break the roots, but would keep the surface clean with horse hoe or shovel plow just as long as it would be safe to work a horse between the rows.

When to Cut Timber for Durability.—Mr. KOONS asks: "At what particular period or season would you recommend the cutting of timber, with reference to its greatest durability?"

Some one asked what this question had to do with a farmers' club.

The CHAIRMAN said, it is a question of the utmost importance to all farmers, as it is a still mooted question among them whether timber will last longest cut in Summer or in Winter.

[illegible] have lately been engaged in building a dock at my place in Connecticut, and this question is one that has [illegible] and I find that most farmers are in favor of Winter. I have had timber cut at both seasons, with a view to test the question of greatest durability.

The debate then took a wide range, and most of the [illegible] got upon the subject of fuel and how to reason and various other matters, until reminded by the Chairman that they had gone astray—but the question was about the time to cut timber for durability.

Mr. PARDEE and Mr. WILLIAMS of this city both argued in favor of cutting timber in Winter, though Mr. Williams thought, if treated exactly alike in regard to seasoning, it would not make much difference whether cut in February or June. Mr. CARPENTER contended that, as the wood was full of sap, it must naturally decay sooner when cut in Summer than in Winter. SOLON ROBINSON said that many careful experiments have been made and reported within a few years, which have entirely exploded the old notion that timber, for durability, must be cut in Winter, as it has been proved that [illegible] cut in Summer is much the best for building ships, [illegible], &c. Of course, it would be the best for making [illegible]. As some of the speakers have already suggested, it should be stripped of its bark, and the sooner [illegible] the better for its durability.

Mr. TRIMBLE related some interesting incidents about the durability of the ancient cypress-trees of North Carolina, out of which shingles are made, after having been [illegible] several centuries.

TUESDAY, Feb. 2.—Ald. ELY took the chair punctually on time, and called the Club to order, and opened the discussion upon turnips, their value, and effect upon milch cows. He exhibited two sorts of [illegible] turnips, one of a yellow color, and the other a [illegible] white. The first, he said, a neighbor assured him was valuable for feed, and gave a yellow color to [illegible]; but the other was not esteemed, and he called for an expression of members upon this question.

Mr. TRIMBLE said that he grew a large crop of turnips one year, too far from market to make it an object [illegible]

[illegible]

DIED.

DRITTENDEN—At Rockaway, N. J., on Tuesday, Jan. 26, Mr. William H. Crittenden, in the 81st year of his age. [illegible]

DE FOREST—In this city, on Sunday, Feb. 7, Peter D. De Forest, [illegible] R. De Forest, in the [illegible]

Boston Cattle Market.

[illegible]

Philadelphia Cattle Market—Feb. 10.

[illegible]

N. Y. Wholesale Prices of Country Produce.

[illegible]

BEANS AND PEAS. [illegible]

BUTTER. [illegible]

CHEESE. [illegible]

EGGS. [illegible]

FRUITS. [illegible]

FRESH MEATS. [illegible]

FURS AND SKINS. [illegible]

feeling in Quail and Prairie Chickens, and prices have advanced [illegible] which has continued plenty and quiet. After [illegible] is prohibited by law from sale in this State, [illegible] of the State it would probably be allowed to be sold, [illegible] We quote:

Quail, ⅌ doz	$0 75 @$1 00
Quail, soft and shot birds, ⅌ doz	— 50 @ — 60
Woodcock, ⅌ pair	— — @ — —
Partridges, ⅌ pair	— 50 @ — 62
Prairie Chicken, ⅌ pair	— 35 @ — 40
Rabbits, each	— 18 @ — 20
Hares, each	— 20 @ — 25
Wild Turkeys, ⅌ lb	— — @ — —
Wild Geese, ⅌ pair	— — @ — —
Venison, saddles, ⅌ lb	— 13 @ — 14
Venison, carcasses, ⅌ lb	— 10 @ — 12

HIDES AND SKINS.

There has been a fair activity at steady rates. We quote Veal skins, green salted country trimmed ⅌ lb 17@18c. Western Slaughter Hides, trimmed and cured ⅌ lb 11½@12c.

POTATOES.

These has been rather less demand and rates have ruled [illegible] Potatoes packed in shipping order bring 25@50c above our quotations. We quote:

Buckeyes, ⅌ bbl	$1 75 @$2 00
[illegible], ⅌ bbl	1 87 @ 2 00
Jackson Whites ⅌ bbl	1 87 @ 2 12½
Rough and Ready, ⅌ bbl	1 87 @ 2 00
Mercers ⅌ bbl	2 00 @ 2 50
Peachblows ⅌ bbl	2 00 @ 2 25
Sweet Potatoes, ⅌ bbl	7 00 @ 7 50
Sweet Potatoes, in bulk, ⅌ bbl	— — @ — —

POULTRY.

Dressed Poultry has been in very light receipt and prices have materially improved for all kinds. Live Turkeys, Fowls and Ducks have been in good request and steady. Geese are not much wanted.

Shippers of Dressed Poultry will consult their own interest, [illegible] packages plainly with their own name or private mark, the address of the firm to whom sent, the kind of poultry in such package, and the [illegible] weight, on the cover; also, by sending an invoice by mail. We quote:

Turkeys, live, ⅌ lb	— 12 @ — 14
Fowls, live ⅌ lb	— 12 @ — 14
Ducks, live, good to choice, ⅌ pair	1 00 @ 1 25
Geese, live, ⅌ pair	1 75 @ — —

DRESSED POULTRY.

Chickens, choice	17 @18
Chickens, common to good	15 @17
Turkeys, choice	19 @20
Turkeys, common to good	15 @18
Ducks, choice	19 @20
Ducks, common to good	15 @18
Geese, choice	13 @14
Geese, common to good	9 @10

SUNDRIES.

FEATHERS are lower. We quote: Western, live Geese, white, ⅌ lb 60@—c. Western, live Geese, mixed, ⅌ lb 58@60c.

BEESWAX—Markets rather dull and outside rate hard to obtain for small lots. We quote: Southern ⅌ lb —@—c. Western ⅌ lb 50 @52c.

BROOM CORN—Market dull. We quote: In bale ⅌ lb 8@12c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR is lower. We quote: Fair to good, ⅌ 100 lb $3 75 @$4 00. Extra choice, ⅌ 100 lb 3 00 @— —

SQUASHES are firm. We quote: Boston Marrow, ⅌ bbl $4 25@$4 75

TURNIPS—We quote: Ruta Baga, ⅌ bbl $1 25 @$1 50

ONIONS—We quote: Red and Yellow, ⅌ 100 strings $5 50@$5 70. Yellow, ⅌ bbl 5 00@— —. Red, ⅌ bbl 5 00@— —

HONEY—No change. We quote: White Clover, in small glass caps 21 @23c. Buckwheat, in small glass caps 24 @25c. Common, in wooden boxes 19 @22c.

HICKORY NUTS dull. Now, ⅌ bush. $1 75@$1 25.

[Advertisement.]

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THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, first issued April 10, 1841, has to-day a larger aggregate circulation than any other newspaper published in America, or (we believe) in the world. Compelled a year since to increase the price of its several issues, or submit to the pecuniary ruin of its proprietors from the very magnitude of its circulation, it has probably since parted with some patrons to whom its remarkable cheapness was a controlling recommendation; but others have taken their places, and it has now more than Two Hundred Thousand subscribers and regular purchasers—an excess of at least Fifty Thousand over those of any rival. And this unprecedented currency it has achieved by very liberal expenditures in procuring early and authentic intelligence, by the fearless expression of convictions, by the free employment of ability and industry wherever it might contribute to excellence in any department of our enterprise, and by unshrinking fidelity to the dictates of Justice, Humanity, and Freedom.

By very large outlays for early and authentic advices by telegraph and otherwise from its own correspondents with the various armies of the Union, and by special efforts to furnish such information respecting Markets, Crops, new discoveries or improvements in Agriculture, &c., as must specially interest farmers, we have assiduously labored to make a journal calculated to meet the wants and subserve the interests of the Producing Classes. That end we have at least measurably attained; for no other newspaper exists in America or Europe which is habitually read by nearly so many farmers and their families as is THE TRIBUNE to-day. We shall labor to increase both the number and the satisfaction of this by far the most numerous class of its patrons.

During the existence of the Whig party, this paper supported that party, though always sympathizing with the more liberal, progressive, Anti-Slavery "wing" thereof. When new issues dissolved or transformed old organizations through the spontaneous uprising of the people of the Free States against the repudiation of the Missouri Restriction, THE TRIBUNE heartily participated in that movement, and was known as Republican. When the long smoldering conspiracy to divide and destroy our country or reduce it entire to complete abasement to the Slave Power culminated in overt treason and rebellion, it naturally, necessarily regarded resistance to this conspiracy as paramount to all other considerations, and devoted all its energies and efforts to the maintenance of our Union. In every great controversy which has divided our country, it has been found on that side which naturally commands the sympathy and support of the large majority of school houses and the decided minority of grog shops, and so doubtless will be to the last.

Ardently desiring and striving for the early and enduring adjustment of our National distractions, THE TRIBUNE leaves the time, the nature and the conditions of that adjustment implicitly to those lawfully in authority, confiding in their wisdom and patriotism, anxious to aid them to the utmost in their arduous responsibilities and not to embarrass them even by possibility. Firmly believing in the Apostolic rule—"First pure, then peaceable"—holding that the total and final extirpation of slavery is the true and only absolute cure for our National ills—that any expedient that stops short of this can have but a transient and illusory success—we yet propound no theory of "reconstruction" and indorse none that has been propounded by another—neither Sumner's, nor Whiting's, nor any of the various Copperhead devices for achieving "Peace" by surrendering the Republic into the power of its traitorous foes—but, exhorting the American People to have faith in their Government, to reënforce their armies and replenish their treasury, we believe that, if they but do their duty, a benign Providence will in due time bring this fearful struggle to such a close as will best subserve the true greatness of our country and the permanent well-being of mankind.

The present session of Congress will be an exceedingly important one, and we have made ample arrangements to lay before our readers what is going on in Washington, both in Congress and in the Departments.

We respectfully solicit the subscriptions and active exertions of our friends, and of all whose views and convictions accord substantially with ours.

New-York, Sept. 10, 1863.

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NOTICE.—The 6th ANNUAL MEETING of the ASSOCIATION OF BREEDERS OF THOROUGH-BRED NEAT STOCK will be held at the City Hall, Worcester, Mass., Wednesday, March 2, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of members and others interested in the objects of the society is expected. HENRY A. DYER, Sec'y, Hartford, Conn.

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